

# The Middlebury Campus

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ADAM SCHAFFER

With its partnership with K12 Inc. to create Middlebury Interactive Languages (MIL), an online language education company for pre-college students, the College hopes to maintain its leadership in language education, help fill a void in world language teaching and increase incoming revenue.

## MIL poised to remake education

By Adam Schaffer

As the College's for-profit online language education venture expands, questions remain as to the effect the new company — Middlebury Interactive Languages (MIL) — will have, both in Middlebury and throughout the country. MIL was formed in April 2010 in partnership with Virginia-based online education giant K12 Inc. to provide high-quality, online language education to pre-college students.

From the outset, Old Chapel has maintained that the leading reasons for creating MIL were to share Middlebury's renowned language pedagogy with younger students and maintain its leadership position in foreign language teaching and learning.

"We cannot afford to sit back and allow others to claim the new space that technology has created for the teaching of lan-

guage if we seek to retain our leadership position," President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz wrote in an email. "Language education in public high schools in this country is in a critical state," he added, and MIL can help improve it by bringing high-quality language courses to students across the country.

The need to subsidize an ever more expensive Middlebury education, however, also played a role in the decision to develop MIL, a for-profit company.

"The pressure on the endowment (to earn more) and on families to pay the high cost of private education requires us to find additional sources of revenue to support a very expensive form of higher education," Liebowitz wrote.

MIL is expected to become profitable in fiscal year 2013, Vice President for Finance and Treasurer Patrick Norton wrote

in an email. Until then, the company's costs are being covered by the initial \$10 million investment, \$4 million of which was made by the College.

### THE MIDDLEBURY INTERACTIVE APPROACH

The program is touted as being far and away better than existing computer-based language programs for its ability to actively engage students in the target language using the Middlebury immersion method.

The content, which is developed by Middlebury professors, includes hundreds of hours of video shot on-site at locations across four continents and a virtual world where students can practice their language skills. Both students and teachers are subject to independently-scored assessments of benchmarks

SEE PARTNERSHIP, 2

## PANTHERS STAND WITH UC DAVIS



COURTESY: KRISTINA JOHANSSON

Students participated in a candlelight vigil Nov. 21 in solidarity with student protesters at Occupy Davis. The event, which was organized by the College's Social Justice Coalition, came in the wake of the pepper-spraying of peaceful protesters at the California university.

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## SGA passes resolution for Pass/D/Fail grading

By Ben Anderson

On Nov. 20, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed the Pass/Fail Resolution proposed by Senator Michael Polebaum '12, officially recommending to the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) the adoption of a Pass/Fail option at the College.

The SGA passed the resolution unanimously, without any major changes in the debate process. Now that it has passed the SGA, it will be voted on by the Student Educational Affairs Committee and then given to the EAC. Before voting on the measure, the EAC plans to discuss the contents of the proposed program while looking for input on the system from both students and professors. Should the program be approved by the EAC, the whole faculty body will vote on the issue. After this, approval pending, the College would begin working towards implementing the program.

The resolution outlines the implementation of a "Pass/D/Fail" system where students may elect to take up to four courses during their undergraduate career for a grade of Pass, if they earn a 70 percent or higher, a D for grades in the 60s or fail for below 60.

The Pass/Fail option is popular at many peer liberal arts colleges. Currently, Middlebury is only one of two schools in the New England Small College Athletic Conference

(NESCAC) that does not have such a system in place.

Since its decades ago, Pass/Fail has been studied as a form of experimental education. Studies on the topic, however, have not been conclusive.

Much of the resistance to approving a Pass/Fail option today comes from professors who fear that such a system undermines a student's quality of education.

"It's unrealistic to think that students taking a class Pass/Fail will be in it 100 percent," said Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry. "The presence of one or two students who are not fully prepared can affect the atmosphere of the class in harmful ways."

Dry was a major opponent to the Pass/Fail option the last time it was considered. At that point, he argued that, should the option be instated, professors should be given the option to opt out of the program.

As the resolution currently reads, students will need to get adviser approval in order to take the Pass/Fail option, and the professor teaching the course will have no knowledge that a student is taking his or her course as Pass/Fail.

Associate Professor of Physics Noah Graham, who is also a member of the EAC, sees possible is-

SEE PROFESSORS, 2

## Admissions sees fewer EDI applications

By Allison Forrest

An estimated 640 hopeful students have submitted their early decision applications to the College to be part of the Class of 2016, a 6.6 percent decrease from last year's total of 685 early decision applicants.

Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles attributes this slight dip in Early Decision I (EDI) applicants to the return of the Early Action option at Harvard, Princeton and UVA and to fewer campus visits as a result of Hurricane Irene's late-summer terror.

Though it is still early in the reviewing process, "right now it looks to once again be an outstanding group, and we'll have some very difficult decisions to make," Buckles said.

Director of Admissions and Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment Manuel Carollo is also very impressed with the quality of the EDI applicants this year.

"This early decision group is very strong, as it usually is," he said.

He discussed how the Admissions Office goes about making the tough decisions about whom to admit.

"When reading applications, the most important thing is looking at academic credentials — how strong their grades are and what types of classes they're taking," he said.

"With the increase in applications and selectivity, we've seen average standardized testing averages increase commensurately," said Buckles. "More importantly, our overall academic ratings, which take a candidate's overall academic performance into account, have continued to improve."

Because so many students are qualified for admission, Corollo said the Admissions Office often finds insight in teacher recommendations and through application essays.

"Sometimes the essays are funny, sometimes they're very serious, but we feel like we get to know them [the applicants] a little better. That's where the

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## BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY BRONWYN OATLEY

Though no formal announcement has yet been made, many European newspapers are predicting the imminent implementation of a fiscal plan designed to hasten European economic integration, in the hopes of calming turbulent international markets.

In an attempt to avoid the arduous process of ratifying a new E.U. treaty, the proposed plan would permit governments to create bilateral agreements between individual states, which would then be cobbled together to create a more comprehensive plan. These new directives would permit a swift change in the governance of the union, allowing select European authorities to more tightly control the budgetary limitations of eurozone nations.

While many experts have praised this plan for its potential to calm the turbulent markets in Europe and around the world, others have called for a reduction in the integration of European economies. They argue that the E.U.'s failure to curb spending is not only a sign of limitations of the union's economic model, but also serves to highlight the democratic deficit inherent in a collective action model of the union's size.

In most democratic countries, higher-earners are required to contribute more to the state through higher tax payments, making up for the lower earnings of the greater portion of the population. With the supersized democratic model of the E.U. however, there is no such required balancing. All countries receive the benefits of greater fiscal integration, but none are forced to pay for the deficits of the weaker members.

Since the creation of the eurozone in 1999, lower earners such as Greece, Italy and Portugal have been permitted to spend well beyond their means, relying on a false sense of fiscal security provided by higher earning states. Without structures in place to prevent overspending, politicians in these nations campaigned on bloated social programs, promising earlier retirement and more vacation days — creating budgets that their states had no way of repaying.

Having now reached an economic tipping point, two main currents of thought with respect to the reform of the Union have emerged. The first, as is being discussed by European newspapers at the moment, calls for greater economic integration. This plan is based upon the federalist model of the United States, and relies upon a stronger central governing body afforded the capacity to decide upon the budget for each individual nation.

The second model calls for a reduction in economic integration. It recognizes the inherent difficulty in controlling the budgets of 17 unique nations, and emphasizes the necessity to return to democracy on a smaller scale.

While pursued in diverse ways, and with undoubtedly different objectives, such a position has been mirrored in recent months by worldwide movements agitating for more representative democracy. Acquiescing to the imminent need to stabilize international markets may require greater economic integration in the short term; however, European officials must remain wary of expanding the economic empire of the European Union.

A failure to do so will permit the propagation of a system that will write the story of its own demise. While an overarching democracy the size of the European Union has never before been tried, similarly large models have been employed under different political systems, and have all resulted in failure.

Nicholas Sarkozy is not Napoleon Bonaparte, and Angela Merkel is not Otto Von Bismarck; these leaders must take caution in establishing a multilateral fiscal policy that threatens to pull democracy even further from contact with the people it professes to represent.

# Partnership worries faculty

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outlined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) to maintain quality.

John Villasenor, a professor at University of California at Los Angeles and a nonresident Brookings Institution fellow with experience in online education, recognized both benefits and challenges in the online model. While the computers may be good at providing vocabulary and grammar drills — and even faster than teachers — the real challenge lies in speaking and writing.

"There's really no substitute for talking to a real person with expertise in the language, and having that person immediately identify and correct mistakes, suggest better word and phrasing choices," he wrote in an email. "The key is to get interactive feedback from a real person" which is difficult if a teacher is supervising too many online students.

While reticent to comment on MIL specifically, he remained optimistic as to the possibility — if not the practicality — of creating quality, for-profit online education.

"Done properly, I think online language instruction has the potential to be effective," he added. "Whether it will be done properly — and whether it is even economically feasible to do it properly — is another issue altogether."

### DISPLACING OR REMAKING PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

Unlike other products by K12 which are geared toward homeschooled students, MIL is designed to be what education experts term "blended education." In this model, students take the majority of their classes in traditional brick-and-mortar schools, then take select courses online, often facilitated by site licenses sold directly to school districts.

Susan Ohanian, a long-time teacher and researcher on education — and specifically K12 — emphasized the importance of the program filling gaps in course offerings, not replacing teachers. Reducing the total number of teachers through a centralizing model, she argued, is not in the best interest of students or teachers.

"I have no problem if the class [given online] really isn't available," she said. "But if they are claiming it's not available and not hiring teachers that are out there;

then I have a problem with it."

MIL developers maintain that the goal of the program is not to replace teachers, but rather to expand education to students who otherwise would not have access to classes.

"Our goal isn't to displace any high-quality [classes]," said Jane Swift, who has been the chief executive officer at MIL since August. "Our goal is to expand the number of high quality world language courses in the education system ... at a time when [school] budgets are shrinking and it's hard to find high-quality teachers."

Online education like MIL, she added, can be a more efficient model for delivering language education to students across the country.

Swift was previously acting governor of Massachusetts, and has long been an advocate of public school reform. She also helped develop John McCain's education platform in his 2008 bid for president.

### CONCERN OVER THE PROFIT MOTIVE

Several members of the faculty are concerned that by allowing the company to be for-profit, content will be geared toward pleasing consumers over providing a well-rounded education. One language professor at the College, who requested anonymity as she was not authorized to speak on the topic, cited an example where content was altered, potentially an example of censorship.

"At one point [the French language program developers] were asked to ... delete a scene of people drinking champagne," she said. "That to me is not just a detail, it has to do with culture. It's a small thing, but it may just be the tip of the iceberg."

The professor questioned whether these changes were being influenced because of the need for the product to remain appealing to parents who would not buy it if it included disagreeable content, regardless of its cultural import.

Chief Language Officer at MIL and Vice President for Language Schools, Schools Abroad and Graduate Programs Michael E. Geisler maintains there is no "censorship to maintain profitability," but rather a desire to keep the program

age-appropriate.

"Any of the top-flight publishing houses which produce textbooks for [pre-college students] will make selections that will screen out certain sensitive topics because parents of teenagers in many parts of the United States would object strongly to this kind of modeling," he wrote in an email. "When questions of sensitive content were brought up they were openly discussed among the team of Middlebury writers."

Professor of Geography Tamar Mayer echoed concerns about the profit motive.

"The danger is that it has the potential to change the basic character of the institution that always defined itself as not-for-profit," she wrote.

"Suddenly the door has been opened to thinking in terms of market appeal and profit potential and this could easily become a criterion for all our decision-making, rather than what is the right thing to do."

### MIL AND K12 INC.

The College has been careful to maintain its independence from K12, which has received some criticism in the national media in recent weeks for its students' low test results and its conservative political ties. K12 has donated over half a million dollars to Republican candidates since 2004, *The Washington Post* reported Sunday, as school choice has long been a platform of conservative advocates of education reform.

"[By] virtue of the long list of operating agreements that formed the new company," Liebowitz told the *Campus* in April 2010, "Middlebury controls the content of what the new company produces, and nothing can carry the Middlebury name on it if it is not approved by Middlebury."

Critics, though, question whether MIL can truly remain independent from its affiliate, which holds a majority share in the company.

"What I object to the most [about MIL] is Middlebury's affiliation with [K12, a] right-wing organization that is buying out the school system," wrote one professor in an email, who requested not to be named given the sensitivity of the issue. "Middlebury seems to think it can build a firewall between the K12 that we read about in the paper and the K12 involved with the MIL project."

## Professors question the wisdom of Pass/Fail courses

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sues with this portion of the resolution.

"A professor may say that it's not a good idea for a student to take one of their courses Pass/Fail," he said, "and if there are rumors going around that [a certain] student is Pass/Fail, will there be concerns that they aren't going to pull their weight in group projects?"

This is the most often cited problem with the Pass/Fail option. Many students and professors fear that Pass-Fail removes incentives in the classroom. Christian Cain '14 said that "[Pass/Fail may] impact my experience in the classroom if some of the students are not as well prepared." Others fear that a Pass/Fail option removes competition in the classroom that could otherwise prove to be beneficial.

Students appear to be largely supportive of instituting a Pass/Fail option at the College. The SGA has received a large amount of support for this resolution, passing it unanimously. An email invitation was extended to students to attend the Nov. 20 meeting of the SGA when this resolution was voted upon. About 10 students showed up for the meeting and offered their thoughts on the

resolution during the debate period.

President of the SGA Vin Recca '12 stated that the Pass/Fail Resolution was his largest campaign promise and enthusiastically expressed his support during the meeting.

Supporters of the option feel that the traditional grading system is too competitive and that fear about one's GPA may deter a student from taking an otherwise beneficial course.

Zeke Caceres '15 said that he thought a Pass/Fail option could be beneficial to students at Middlebury.

"It allows students to explore a new department and take advantage of the liberal arts at Middlebury because it's less of a risk," he said. "It's learning for the sake of learning, not grades."

The EAC plans to open discussion on the Pass/Fail option during Winter Term. During this time, the committee will research the potential impact of instituting such a program as well as surveying both student and professor opinion. Given this timeframe, even if the EAC does eventually approve the program, Senator Polebaum believes that the earliest students at the College could see this program in place would be the fall term of the 2012-2013 school year.

### Trivia

*Test your knowledge at Crossroads Cafe, 21+, bring two forms of ID. THURSDAY 9-11 P.M.*

**Free Friday Film ▶**  
*Final Destination 5*  
At Dana Auditorium.  
FRIDAY AT 7 & 10 P.M.

**Zumba**  
*Come dance the calories away at McCullough Social Space.*  
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.



# Admissions optimistic about EDI diversity

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applicant's voice really comes through," said Carollo.

Although most trends in applicants have remained consistent, Buckles noted an increase in applicants from California.

"While we're pleased to have so many strong candidates from there, it's also an unfortunate reflection of the state of education in that state," he said. "Many of our peers reported seeing similar increases."

He also noted that the range of academic interests has stayed relatively constant.

"Certainly 'undecided' remains popular, as you'd hope and expect with candidates interested in the liberal arts, but virtually all programs at Middlebury receive a lot of interest from prospective students," said Buckles.

According to Buckles, diversity continues to be a focus for student recruitment. In attempts to increase the diversity of applicants the Admissions Office increased travel around the country. Programs such as Posse, which was ex-



Greg Buckles



Manuel Carollo

panded to Chicago this year, and Discover Middlebury, also focus on increasing diversity.

"We had a very successful Discover Middlebury program in October and felt great about that group of students who were here," said Buckles.

Although the exact percentages of U.S. students of color and international students who applied EDI are still being determined, Buckles is optimistic.

"We're expecting to have a strong class and ideally even stronger in terms of representation of diversity."

Despite the slight decrease this year, Buckles said the College typically draws a high number of EDI applicants.

"Historically, Middlebury has attracted a larger number of early decision applicants than our peer schools," said Buckles. "There is a very strong notion of what Middlebury is about."

Identifying reasons for the College's appeal, Buckles said, "Two of the areas of greatest interest among college students currently intersect perfectly with two of Middlebury's signature programs, international studies and languages, and environmental studies and sustainability."

The target number of early decision acceptances is 230 for September admission and 30 for February admission, with most students who are not admitted being deferred to the regular decision pool.

Typically, 45 percent of the matriculating class is accepted through the ED I and II, EDII and Regular Decision applications are due Jan. 1.

The target size for the Class of 2016 is 600 students for September admission and 90 students for February admission.

EDI applicants will hear back mid-December.

## OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY NATHAN GOLDSTONE '13

Irkutsk, Russia

Something is rotten in the state of Russia, and the youth in Siberia have started to make a stink. While the weather has begun its descent into frigid temperatures in my now-hometown of Irkutsk, the city's legacy of embracing rebellious youth is heating up as Russia's Dec. 4 legislative elections near.

Russia's claim of maintaining a democratic state is, in practical terms, something between farce and façade. Parties opposing the Putin-Medvedev tandem heading United Russia do exist, but only nominally. Prime Minister Putin has befriended or hired those who control the television news stations, and smaller parties seem to be given only airtime when they appear unelectable and out of touch.

It is becoming clear that Russia's youth are disenchanted with this one-party hold-over from their parents' socialist state, and, with the help of modern technology, are beginning to change their nation's political reality. This month in Krasnoyarsk, 15-year-old Matvei Tsivivnyuk posted a video online of his principal's explosive response after the student defaced a United Russia poster that hung in his school. No other party was permitted advertisement on the premises until national attention forced a change of policy.

Here in Irkutsk students regularly organize small, politically motivated gatherings through social networking sites like Kontakt — most often in the form of short-lived but well-attended and organized flash mobs — which work to make young voters more united and more vocal in their discontent.

While such activity is sometimes indirect in purpose, the individual efforts in Irkutsk have already produced results. Last year, United Russia placed heavy support on the mayor of the nearby city of Bratsk to take over in Irkutsk, and when it was clear that he could not win decisively, the party used its influence over the elections committee to disqualify the leading candidate. In protest, the city elected Viktor Kondrashov, officially of the Communist Party but effectively an independent, by a margin of 35 percent.

Unfortunately, three months after winning the mayoral elections, Kondrashov announced his new allegiance to United Russia. Many Irkutians view this as a career-saving maneuver, but the real motives behind the change are unclear.

Irkutsk's youth has begun taking matters into their own hands. Not long ago, I befriended Sasha, a local celebrity of sorts and one of the main organizers of political gatherings around the city. He believes that it is best to change the system from within. In ardent opposition to United Russia, he has officially joined the party to receive a stipend for his dedication, which he then uses to help finance protest activities.

Given that Putin was effectively appointed president six months before any democratic motion on the matter would take place, the December vote for the legislature is certainly, to a large degree, already decided. Nevertheless, young people all over the country are laying the groundwork for a more democratic future, and are doing so with a farsightedness that tends to elude their more politically categorized counterparts in America.

Perhaps I am just settling in, but for the first time in Russia — a land where grotesque contradictions often have their way with reason — I think I understand where my peers are coming from when they laugh off this election season while devoting their lives to the next. They have realized that this war against pseudo-Soviet politics, like most great wars in their country's history, will be one of simmering attrition.

Who knows what will come of the student demonstrations and organizations spreading across Siberia, but one thing is clear: the children of the Far East want in on the Western World, and it seems only a matter of time before their corrosive unrest comes to a head.

## College considers food studies minor

By Jess Berry

A proposal for the new Food and Agricultural Studies minor was submitted to the Curriculum Committee the week of Nov. 13. The proposed minor will consist of five courses, including an internship or research opportunity.

The work toward creating a Food and Agricultural Studies minor began in the fall of 2010, when a subgroup of faculty at the Environmental Council suggested the idea. Professor of Biology Helen Young was a chair for the council and has spearheaded the creation of the minor ever since.

"I joined the food subgroup just with a general interest in food and food in the curriculum," said Young. "At our first meeting as a group we decided that we would like to pursue at least investigating a proposal for a food studies minor. At that point we heard that something informal had already been proposed by students well before us, and so we used that as the skeleton to start our proposal."

Since the discussion over the food minor began a year ago, investigations into the classes that are currently offered, the classes that should be offered in the future and possibilities for internships have been at the forefront of the work needed to get the minor off the ground.

The proposed minor will consist of four courses, which will include two mandatory introductory courses and two electives, and an internship or research work.

"We wanted to keep it accessible, addable to anyone's major," said Young. "It may easily change. We may find that five courses does not allow a broad enough exposure to the different aspects of food."

Some professors at the College already offer courses that could be used as electives for the minor. Courses would be offered in multiple disciplines, including biology, chemistry, geology, anthropology and literature.

Of the two new introductory courses being proposed, one would discuss sustainable agriculture or food systems at

large and the other would involve all faculty members teaching food studies courses. Each would contribute a lecture or a week of classes to introduce the interdisciplinary nature of food studies.

Two food-related courses will be offered this Winter Term, though they both arose independently of the food minor. Food Geographies will be taught by visiting professor Jesse McEntee. Young will be teaching a course called On Food and Cooking.

"Once I became very interested in food in the curriculum, and it was apparent that I needed to teach a Winter Term course, I put my thoughts together and decided I would love to do something on food and cooking with a chef in Atwater," said Young. "So I'm combining the biological and culinary aspects of food into one course."

The Center for Education in Action (EIA) has been working to develop new internships within the food industry. Current opportunities offered through MOJO include internships with Shelburne Farms, Golden Russet Farms, the Center for Agricultural Economy, Sunrise Orchards, EatingWell Magazine, GoodFoodJobs, Canaan Farm and Butler Green Farms.

Associate Dean of the College and Director of the Center for Education Lisa Gates said that other internships are in the process of being created.

"We're working on a pilot program in Louisville, Ky., called 'Louisville Food Works' and hope to have a dozen Middlebury students working there this summer in different areas of the local food economy," wrote Gates in an email. "We're developing opportunities there in food production, public policy, health and nutrition, food deserts and food security."

Gates is optimistic for the benefits of the food studies minor in regards to job opportunities for students after graduation.

"Internships like these are a powerful way for students to explore first-hand

how things work or don't work, what the fundamental issues and obstacles are and hopefully develop new ways of thinking about the very real problems facing us," wrote Gates. "That sort of thinking and skill development will make students very competitive when applying for jobs or graduate programs."

Kate Strangfeld '12, a co-manager of Crossroads Café, plans to attend graduate school for food studies. She believes the food studies minor would be a beneficial addition as a liberal studies minor.

"Being someone who is involved with food both in practice and in academics, I believe that the subject of food involves an incredibly wide scope of topics," wrote Strangfeld in an email. "I think it's great that the College is taking an interdisciplinary approach to the minor. I think it captures the liberal arts spirit of the school and shows how food has a relationship with almost every other major academic field."

Supporters of food studies are now waiting for the Curriculum Committee to make a decision on the Food and Agricultural Studies minor proposal. The committee consists of four faculty members, a registrar and Director of the Natural Sciences and Dean of Curriculum Robert Cluss.

Young believes that the widespread support of the minor will help to get the proposal approved.

"Every time we do a group gathering to talk about food the energy level is extraordinary," said Young. "And it's not just students. It's started by students, and I know it's there among the students, but it seems to be everywhere. I think all you have to do is look around and look at the Farm to Plate program, the tremendous support of CSAs, the fact that the Middlebury Natural Food Co-Op is a hub of activity and growth and the presence of the college farm — it's clear that the presence of knowing where your food comes from and wanting to play some role in that is huge."

## PUBLIC SAFETY LOG NOVEMBER 14-27, 2011

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/14/11	10:43 a.m.	Fireworks Possession	Students found with fireworks	Pearsons	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/14/11	3:10 p.m.	Property Missing	Bike	Bike Rack	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/16/11	9:31 p.m.	Driving Offense	Student driving wrong way	Hillcrest Road	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/18/11	1:50 a.m.	Vandalism	College building sign	Voter	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/18/11	unknown	Vandalism	Vegetation	637 College Street	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/20/11	6:30 a.m.	Missing Adult	Was soon located	Coffrin Hall	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN
11/22/11	3:55 a.m.	Vandalism	Ceiling tiles	Coffrin Hall	REFERRED TO DOC AND COMMONS DEAN

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 10 alcohol citations between 11/14/2011 and 11/27/2011.

## COLLEGE SHORTS

NEWS

NEWS FROM ACROSS  
THE NATION

COMPILED BY KELSEY COLLINS

### UC Davis Chancellor takes heat after pepper spray

The use of pepper spray by police officers on students at the University of California at Davis participating in Occupy Wall Street protests on Nov. 18 has sparked national outrage, and the YouTube footage of the incident has gone viral with millions of views. UC Davis Chancellor Linda Katehi has announced that the university is dropping all charges against the protesters and is offering to cover the cost of medical expenses incurred by students who were sprayed by campus police officers. Katehi claimed that she had simply instructed the campus police to take down the tents that had been erected on the campus quad and had never authorized the use of violence. Katehi has faced calls for her resignation, and the chief of campus police and the two officers involved in the incident have been suspended.

— UWIRE

### Asst. Syracuse basketball coach fired amid allegations

Syracuse University fired the Associate Head Coach of the men's basketball team, Bernie Fine, on Sunday in the wake of child molestation allegations. ESPN reported that Fine's wife, Laurie, had admitted in a recorded 2002 telephone conversation that she was aware that her husband had sexually molested a child, Bobby Davis, who worked as a ball boy for the Syracuse basketball team. Fine is also accused of molesting Davis's stepbrother, Mike Lang, and a third accuser, Zach Tomasselli, came forward over the weekend. The 65-year-old Fine was in his 36th season at his alma mater.

— ESPN

### American students released in Cairo after protesting

The three American students arrested in Cairo last week during protests in Tahrir Square have been released. The three men — students at Georgetown University, Indiana University and Drexel University, respectively — had been studying at the American University in Cairo during their semester abroad, and were arrested for allegedly throwing fire bombs at the Cairo police force from the roof of the University. The three men deny these accusations, and claim they had accidentally encountered a demonstration while wandering the streets of Cairo. They were detained in prison for a week, until they were unexpectedly released on Saturday and allowed to return to the United States.

— UWIRE

### OWS protests high student

The Education and Empowerment Committee of Occupy Wall Street launched a national campaign against student debt on Nov. 21 in Zuccotti Park. The protesters hope to gather one million signatures of students willing to boycott their payments on their student loans. The rising cost of college tuition has become a financial burden for the most recent generation of college graduates — college seniors with student loans now graduate \$25,000 in debt, on average — and the Occupy Wall St. movement has helped call national attention to this problem. The protesters' anger over the issue became especially visible during protests in Madison Square Park on Monday, following the announcement by the City University of New York that the university will be increasing its tuition over the course of the next three years.

— UWIRE and the New York Times

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By Hannah Bristol

In the Community Council meeting on Nov. 15, the council was joined by Sergeant Chris Thompson from the Department of Public Safety to discuss the department's role on campus.

Thompson explained the organization of Public Safety and their charge under the Vermont Liquor Control Board, as well as their view of parties and their strategy for controlling them. The council intends to invite members of Public Safety back later in the semester after the Alcohol and Social Life Committee has had more time to work.

The council also approved the creation of the Solar Decathlon house, Self Reliance, as an academic interest house. Three or four students will live there starting spring semester with the goal of promoting sustainable living.

In the meeting on Nov. 21, the council reflected on the past few meetings, where various aspects of dorm damage and social life have been discussed.

The council focused on ways to improve student-custodial staff relation-

ship, and decided to work toward creating opportunities for students to meet the staff in their building. They created an ad-hoc committee to focus on dorm damage consisting of four council members.

Director of the Center for Education in Action (EIA) Lisa Gates, Associate Director of Civic Engagement and Internships Peggy Burns, Director of Career Services Don Kjelleren and Associate Director of Career Services Tim Mosehauer joined the Council on Nov. 28 to update the Council on the EIA.

They first explained the recent creation of the EIA, which was formed from three separate offices in 2010 to consolidate student resources. The EIA has begun frequently analyzing data to discover how they can more effectively help students and reach out to groups that are not utilizing the EIA's resources.

"Our goal is to be a central resource for students seeking hands-on experiences through internships, projects, volunteer work and advising on career directions," said Gates.

The EIA is focusing especially on early

Council discusses Public Safety, EIA

engagement and is encouraging underclassmen to contact the EIA.

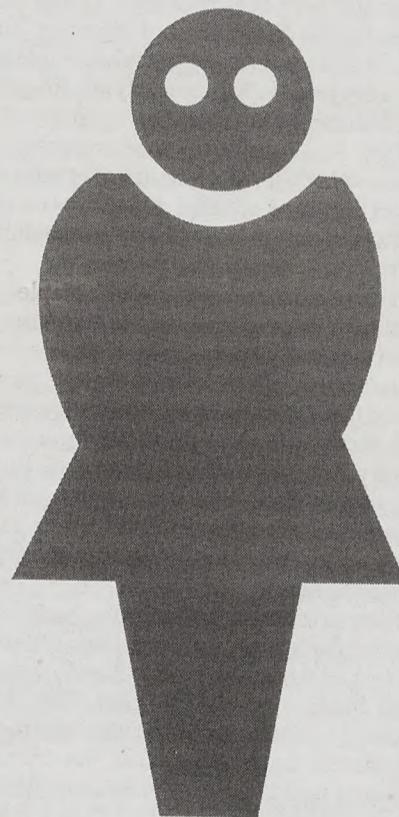
"Simply put, please come in and see us. We really want to make Adirondack House feel like a place you can stop in and get to know us," said Mosehauer.

The meeting allowed for an open forum between EIA representatives, faculty, staff and students, allowing all parties to share ideas about the EIA's work.

"It was great to have a chance to talk with students and faculty about our work. There was clear interest from the faculty in working closely with us to support students in exploring work and grad school options after college [and] interest from students in having academic departments support that exploration," said Gates.

"It is clear that everyone at the EIA is trying very hard to adapt to — or even get ahead of — student needs, and they are certainly making progress; however, there is room for improvement ... The EIA representatives were very open to concrete constructive criticism, and I encourage people to send them their thoughts," said Tik Root '12.

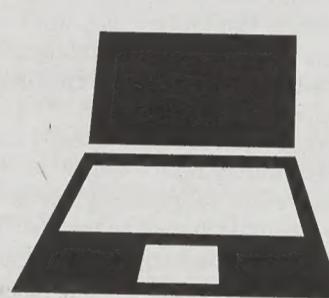
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## 3 SEND SOMETHING



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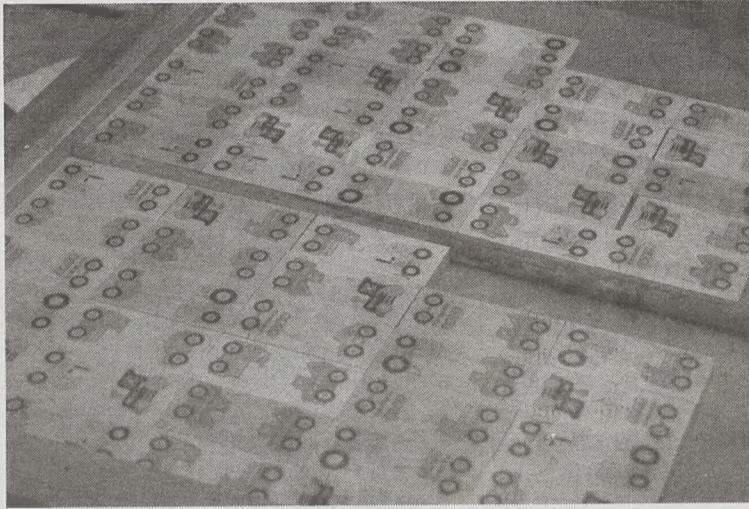
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# Santa's secret woodshop



By Molly Talbert

Thanksgiving has come and gone, and the December holidays are just around the corner. If you're interested in buying toys for younger siblings, cousins or children, or need something to do while waiting impatiently to get home to the FAO Schwartz catalog, head to Maple Landmark Woodcraft.

Located at 1297 Exchange Street, just past Otter Creek Brewing, the company employs 35 people and boasts over 1,000 products — ranging from building blocks to train sets with miles of little wooden tracks.

Michael Rainville, the founder of Maple Landmark, grew up in Lincoln, Vt., and has been a woodworker for as long as he can remember. Starting with cars, trucks, cribbage boards, bobbins and spool holders, he is passionate about his company and his job.

He even made his first wholesale when he was 15 years old. Studying business and engineering at Clarkson University, Rainville was prepared to craft his own woodworking business. He founded Maple Landmark in 1984 and in the 90s, the business took off, thanks to its specialty "Name Train." Now, Rainville's company has a wide customer base around the country.

Although Maple Landmark has a nationwide clientele, it is still a family company. Rainville's wife, Jill, is the Vice President and co-owner of the company, his sister, Barbara, is Maple Landmark's marketing manager and his 92-year-old grandmother helps assemble toys, such as baby rattles and yo-yos.

Some employees have worked at the company for over 20 years.

"Some of the people working here I went to school with," said Rainville. "One person I went to first grade with and my mother was the teacher."

Rainville's emphasis on community extends though — great care is taken to ensure that he uses local material suppliers.

"I've always been about doing business with people I can relate to," he said. "I always buy lumber locally. It is just how I like to do business."

Even though buying and sourcing products locally falls in line with a progressive business practice, especially in Vermont, it does add an extra burden for companies, as their main competition comes from factories overseas.

"[Initially] Chinese imports put a damper on business," said Rainville. "But, then, they put a damper on themselves by putting lead in their paint."

Although this lapse in judgment

helped make his natural, American-made toys a desirable product for conscientious parents, there are still limits to the company's market share.

"We have no regular relationship with big stores," said Rainville. "They want products made in China [due to the low prices]. I find it sickening, to be honest."

Regardless, Maple Landmark continues to maintain its strong customer base.

"We sell directly to specialty stores and gift shops," said Rainville.

In addition to these sales, Maple Landmark also sells many of its products online or in its Middlebury showroom.

The company is just beginning to enter its busiest time of the year. Since it has such a strong connection with its customer base, Maple Landmark produces toys for the holidays until the week or two before Christmas. By contrast, bigger toy companies finish making their products months in advance.

"It amazes me how we're cranking out toys on [December] 15 and 16 that are still going to make it under the Christmas tree," said Rainville.

Another advantage of being a small, nimble and connected company is that a "big chunk of the business is customized."

If a customer wants to buy a yo-yo with a specific label or name on it or seeks

to place its company logo on the side of a toy train, it is a simple addition for Maple Landmark. There is an added fee, but customers can work closely with Rainville. He does the product design himself to ensure customer satisfaction.

The array of machines in the factory — ranging from state-of-the-art laser cutters and printers to jerry-rigged machines for sanding down edges — makes all this possible.

"The technology is incredible," said Rainville. "We have full color print on wood that is as easy as printing color on paper. This helps us compete and stay alive."

On a tour of the factory, it was fun to see these machines in action — the laser cutter creates intricate ornaments, the printer churns out dominos with spunky colors, all the while the employees are carefully assembling each choo-choo train. While an immense production, it is also surprisingly subdued.

"People often think that we're a larger company than we are," he said.

And, that is the amazing part; a little company, tucked away in the town of Middlebury, competes with companies that outsource their productions. Maple Landmark is a true testament to passion, patience and loyalty both to customers and by customers.



MOLLY TALBERT

Founded in 1984 by Michael Rainville, Maple Landmark Woodcraft does a fine job competing with other toy stores across the nation due to its dedicated work ethic.

# WHAT'S OPERA, DOC?



BY DAVIS WOOLWORTH

On Saturday, Nov. 19, I made a trip to the Town Hall Theater (THT) for a broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Satyagraha*, Philip Glass's 1979 opera. The Met: Live in HD series broadcasts a selection of operas live from the Metropolitan Opera in New York City's Lincoln Center to movie theaters around the world, one of them being the THT.

Saturday's broadcast was the 50th broadcast of the series, which has expanded across the U.S. as well as into Europe, Asia and South America since its inception in 2006. While tickets do cost \$24, I believe the broadcast is still priced at an amazing value.

Certainly viewing an opera at the THT is not the same as seeing an opera at the Met, but the broadcast actually compares favorably with physically seeing a production. For one thing, the use of different camera angles and close-ups presents a new experience to even an experienced opera-goer — one is not stuck to the view from their seat. The cameras roam around the opera house, seeing views closer than from any opera glass. Secondly, the picture and audio are excellent, and do as much as they can to replicate the quality of the Met's productions.

**Heavy on symbolism (and giant puppets), the opera highlighted the inspiration Gandhi brought to his people, his acceptance of leadership and his successes as a nonviolent**

It almost goes without saying that the principal advantage is that a five-minute walk gives you access to one of the finest opera houses in the world. The Met orchestra has of late been proving its reputation as one of the top orchestras in the world. *Satyagraha*'s music was no exception, as I felt there was exceptional playing across the brass and percussion-less string and woodwind orchestra.

*Satyagraha*, its name derived from Gandhi's theory of nonviolence, is far from the stereotypical opera. Not a single Viking helmet was to be seen, though there was a fat lady or two belting her tunes. Based on the life of Mohandas Gandhi, the opera is sung entirely in Sanskrit, taking its libretto (the text) from Gandhi's great inspiration, the *Bhagavad Gita*, an ancient Hindu scripture.

Composer Philip Glass is famed for his role in the "minimalist" movement in modern music. He is known popularly for his film scores, recently including *The Illusionist*, *Notes on a Scandal* and *The Truman Show*, winning an Oscar for the latter. Glass relies on simple structures, repeated over and over to create waves of sound that wash over the listener.

Visually, *Satyagraha* was an utter spectacle. In one of the many striking scenes, Tolstoy made a cameo as an observer representing the past of Gandhi's nonviolent movement. Giant crowds of British and Indian citizens, accompanied by physical representations of Ganesh and Krishna, sang together in Sanskrit, all with a background of two 30-foot wicker puppet warriors fighting. Heavy on symbolism (and giant puppets), the opera highlighted the inspiration Gandhi brought to his people, his acceptance of leadership and his successes as a nonviolent protester. These included the creation of his newspaper, the burning of Black Act papers and the New Castle March.

The THT's website offers a schedule of the seven upcoming operas in the series. The Met in HD is a program that deserves some patrons younger than 50, of which I may have been the only one on Saturday.

# ONE IN 8,700

Where the personalites of Middlebury proper are celebrated

By Frank Wyer

For students who are not sure they like Vermont yet, local yoga instructor Russell Comstock offers a heartening perspective.

"I absolutely love Vermont," he said. "I'm here to stay."

Comstock certainly has the authority and experience to make such a statement. Born in Atlanta, Ga., he spent a good time in the mountains of Western North Carolina before moving to New England in his late teens.

He lived briefly in Maine and New Hampshire, before finding his true home in Lincoln, Vt.

"When first coming to Vermont I spotted Lincoln on the map and thought, 'Ooh, that looks like a spot that would be just right for the things I love and was interested in cultivating in my life,'" he said. "And basically about 15 years later, I landed on a property here in Lincoln, so it was a very nice completion to a first insight."

Comstock completed a graduate degree in contemplative and ecological leadership, and for a while worked in the field of outdoor adventure-based education. He describes this as "using outdoor experiences as a vehicle for building confidence and skills in a very hands-on kind of way." Vermont was the perfect place to pursue his great passions in life — sustainable farming and yoga.

With his wife he founded the Metta Earth Institute and the Center for Contemplative Ecology, which Comstock said is basically a yoga farm if you had to boil it down to two words. There they run various courses, host programs and retreats

and tend a small farm. They grow up to 75 percent of their own food for the participants in their programs to enjoy. Through this and other activities, they hope to explore the convergence of the natural and spiritual.

"We try to integrate our ecological footprint awareness with our spiritual practice, our yoga, and see where those two come together," Comstock said.

Yoga neophytes are often attracted to the activity's health benefits, but for Comstock, yoga is "a very wonderful experience for the body" and its true value lies in its spiritual aspects.

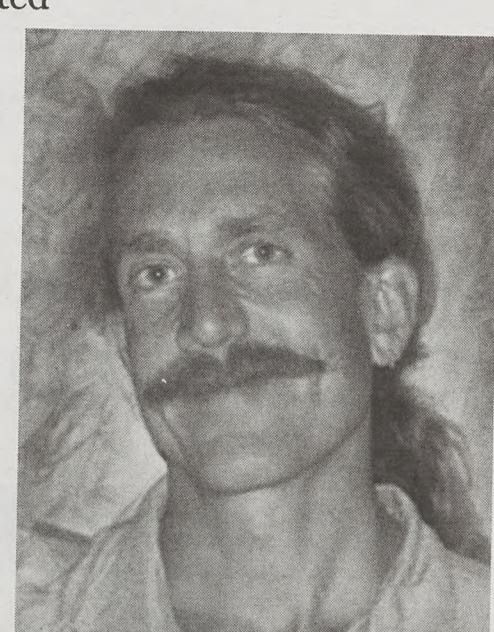
"For me, the Eastern traditions of yoga and meditation have been very strong," he said. "Some kind of a connection to one's own sense of what helps us understand that which is larger than ourselves."

Comstock has been teaching yoga ever since he moved to Vermont, and he has taught at the College for three years. He's excited by its increasing popularity on campus.

"It is continuing to grow," he said. "At times, at the College, we have 25 students come to classes, which is wonderful. We've held classes in the various lounges of the Commons buildings, down in the dance studio or in the CFA."

And thanks to recent developments, students can now participate in this activity in other ways.

"Right now the new wonderful development is that a few students have managed to get a yoga club established," Comstock said. "So there's a formal club now, that will have funding and will be allocated



COURTESY: OTTER CREEK YOGA

Russell Comstock values all that the spiritual gift of yoga has to offer.

space. That should really help I think, and I look forward to the growth that will come from it."

After about 40 years of searching, Comstock thinks he has found his calling, one that integrates his passions for the outdoors, farming and spiritual discovery. He encourages students to consider taking classes in biology, ecology and natural resources, to spend time in the outdoors and to even visit one of Vermont's many local farms. In the end though, he believes everyone has his/her own unique path to fulfillment, and he said "each person will do it in his/her own way."

## TURKEY TROT AND GOBBLE WOBBLE



JIAYI ZHU

Runners met at the Municipal Gym in Middlebury for the annual Turkey Trot and Gobble Wobble on Sunday, Nov. 20. There was a 5K and a 10K option for all to enjoy, and the race began promptly at noon.

# Artisan crafts travel to Middlebury



The Ten Thousand Villages fair offered goods for locals to purchase. All the money supports artisans around the world.

**By Devin MacDonald**

Friday, Nov. 18, marked the start of the 20th annual Ten Thousand Villages fair trade festival sale. Organized each year by the Memorial Baptist Church in Middlebury, the fair featured everything from hand-woven baskets to Christmas ornaments. The craft sale benefits the Ten Thousand Villages organization and brings gifts from across the world to Middlebury each and every year.

In 1964, Edna Ruth Byler founded Ten Thousand Villages. She noticed the intricate embroidery work performed by local women in Puerto Rico and realized these ladies had no way to sell their work. Since, the non-profit has grown to a network of over 390 retail outlets in the U.S., offering items from more than 130 artisan groups in 38 countries. The festival sale program is another part of the organization, and this is when the Memorial Baptist Church participates.

Kathy Jewett, one of the chief organizers of the event, loves the event's message and idea.

"People like to buy from here because it gives back," she said. "They feel good about it, and it's so fun to help people so far away."

Ten Thousand Villages makes the sale a smooth one for Jewett and other organizers.

In the first years of the festival, the organization chose what to send, so that the church just offered a space to sell these items.

"It's like opening Christmas presents," said Jewett. "We do it all by consignment because it's a small town and whatever we don't sell we just give back."

The organization also recently opened a permanent store in Burlington, Vt., which has not affected the Middlebury fair negatively. On average, the church sells 60 percent of the items displayed and the rest are shipped back hassle-free. Ten Thousand Villages also pays 50 percent upfront to the artisans in order to prevent debt. After the event, all of the actual profits go directly back to the artisans.

"It really gets back to the artisans," said Jewett. "They encourage people all over the world to make things that will sell."

Items available this year were impressive and beautiful, such as the kisii stone sculptures in abstract shapes from Kenya. Among the other gifts were hand-woven baskets in a rainbow of colors, candleholders, bowls, intricate wooden ornaments and purses with flower and peace signs woven onto them.

Jennifer and Sofia Stefani, a mother and daughter pair from Middlebury, visited the event for the first time this year. They had

been to one of the Ten Thousand Villages stores before, but liked how near this fair was near to home, as well as to the holiday season.

"It's really nice to have it so close," said Jennifer. "My favorite gifts are the baskets and Sofia likes the little wooden stick houses the best."

Between 20 and 25 volunteers helped out at this year's event. They set up, talked to customers, sold items and then packed all extra goods up and shipped these back.

Joni Masterson volunteered for the first time this year.

"It's awesome," she said. "It's really fun to have people come down. The children are the best — they get so excited about it all."

Masterson heard about the event during a Sunday church service and this spurred her decision to volunteer. Her favorite items were the handcrafted Christmas decorations. All of the volunteers are loyal customers and never leave empty-handed. Masterson sees the event as a wonderful way to keep learning about the world and helping people around the globe.

The Ten Thousand Villages fair trade event offered beautiful gifts with a cause worthy of holiday spending money. The Memorial Baptist Church plans to sponsor the event again next year.



ANNA CLEMENTS

## LOCAL LOWDOWN

### Gingerbread house display

Middlebury's annual Gingerbread Exhibit and Competition kicks off this Friday at the Vermont Folklife Center. Come on down to see these beautiful sticky-sweet works of art and vote for your favorite. The competition lasts until Dec. 21, when a winner will be announced.

DEC. 2, 4 P.M. – 6 P.M.

### Christmas bazaar in Bristol

Santa Claus is coming to town — well actually to Bristol, where coffee and muffins, handmade gifts and ornaments and homemade holiday treats will be waiting at the Bristol Federated Church. He'll make his appearance at 10 a.m., while those too big to sit on Santa's lap can enjoy a silent auction and Christmas gift shopping. Call 802-453-2619 for more details.

DEC. 3, 8:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

### A very merry Middlebury

This Saturday downtown Middlebury will transform into the Grinch's worst nightmare — a town full of holiday cheer. Young kids can sit in Santa's lap when he arrives at the Middlebury Community House at 10 a.m. by fire truck, while older kids, couples and families can enjoy free horse-drawn wagon rides from 10 a.m. until noon. Drink hot chocolate all day long at Cannon Park, while listening to the Middlebury Union High School choral ensemble perform around town. For more information visit [www.bettermiddleburypartnership.org](http://www.bettermiddleburypartnership.org).

DEC. 3, 9:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

### Festival of wreaths

The Town Hall Theater becomes this year's new venue for the 19th annual Festival of Wreaths, sponsored by the Mary Johnson Children's Center. Over 100 wreaths will be on display, created by merchants from around Addison County and friends of the Center. You'd be surprised by how elaborate a circle of pine needles can be!

DEC. 3, 10 A.M. – 6 P.M.

### Rodelinda

The Met Opera production of Rodelinda will be rebroadcast at the Town Hall Theater this Sunday in high definition on the big screen. Renee Fleming takes on the starring role in this three-act series, playing Rodelinda, the Queen of Lombardy. Tickets go on sale at the THT box office for \$24. Call 802-382-9222 for more information.

DEC. 4, 1:00 P.M. – 5:15 P.M.

### Salisbury Christmas party

It's the most wonderful time of the year, as the Christmas countdown has begun. Join others at the Salisbury Free Public Library to kick off the red and green festivities. Local musicians will play an array of tunes to audiences in attendance, and Jennifer Stefani will read a holiday story for all the children. Refreshments will be available, in addition to hay wagon rides to Memorial Park for the tree lighting ceremony. This will begin at 5 p.m. and all are invited to join.

DEC. 4, 3:30 P.M. – 5 P.M.

### Choral concert

The Middlebury Union High School performs for friends, family and anyone interested in holiday music this Tuesday at the Middlebury Congregational Church, under the direction of music conductor Liz Lebeau. The concert will showcase a semester's worth of practice, as the high school students sing favorite holiday tunes, including sing-alongs for audience participation. After the music, stay for cookies and tea in the fellowship hall.

DEC. 6, 12:30 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

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# OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

## EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

The proposal itself has been adopted and implemented. However, there is a lengthy process to the actualization of the idea. But as it stands, the proposal is carrying momentum into the final review processes.

We at the *Campus* endorse the Pass/Fail option as outlined in the SGA proposal.

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## The merits of a pass/fail option

The proposal for Pass/Fail has not yet passed, but it hasn't yet failed. The Student Government Association (SGA) recently approved a Pass/Fail resolution that will subsequently be presented to the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC). The resolution acknowledges both the benefits of such a proposal while accounting for problematic outcomes.

Many have incorrectly assumed that the endorsement of Pass/Fail from the SGA means that the proposal itself has been adopted and implemented. However, there is a lengthy process to the actualization of the idea. But as it stands, the proposal is carrying momentum into the final review processes.

We at the *Campus* endorse the Pass/Fail option as outlined in the SGA proposal.

The current proposal both provides the opportunity for students to take a course without the stress of worrying about GPA while also addressing certain restrictions on what courses can be taken Pass/Fail.

The SGA has applied certain restrictions to the proposal that would limit misuse of the Pass/Fail option. Under the current resolution, students cannot take Pass/Fail classes in their major, for Winter Term or to fulfill distribution requirements. These constraints would help ensure that the option be used solely for academic exploration rather than as an easy way to coast through classes. Students will also need approval from an adviser, who could give valuable feedback on whether or not the student should take a course Pass/Fail. Additionally, professors will not know who in their class is taking it Pass/Fail — eliminating any bias that might result from such knowledge.

The benefits are clear for the majority of the student body. Many of us feel the pressure of GPA in determining future employment and academic success while at Middlebury. Pass/Fail would allow for greater flexibility in taking classes and spur academic exploration into diverse fields, without the fear of faltering. A true liberal arts experience should give opportunity to

explore diverse disciplines, but this is often difficult when the pressure of maintaining a good GPA deters any risk-taking in class selection. The option could even open up non-academic exploration for students. A lessened workload would make more time to see lectures, attend concerts, join a club, or even hang out with friends.

But despite the benefits, we recognize the potential issues that have made many professors averse to the idea. Middlebury has a well-earned reputation as an academically rigorous school and Pass/Fail may complicate this. But Middlebury is one of two NESCAC schools not to offer the option, so there is a precedent among our peer institutions. Some professors have expressed that it is unrealistic to expect a Pass/Fail student to put forth the same effort as other students. While this may be true for some, we remain optimistic that most students who take the Pass/Fail option would do so because they want to learn. Professors see grades as incentives for students to work hard while many students view grades as a stressful barrier to a meaningful learning experience. We must address both viewpoints.

There are definitely kinks that need to be worked out before the resolution becomes official. The class dynamic is likely to be

altered. While we support students taking classes out of their comfort zone, would this affect the pace and rigor of the class? And, currently, the proposal says that Pass/Fail cannot apply to major classes. What if a first-year takes Intro to Macroeconomics as Pass/Fail on a whim, finds out she loves it, but then runs into problems when she declares as an Economics Major? All of the potential benefits and problems should be addressed in an open forum where each side can be heard and compromises can be reached.

If a counterpoint exists, we need to hear it (possibly through op-eds from professors?). We need to start a dialogue and come to a consensus as a community. We suggest that the administration or SGA hold an open forum, similar to the alcohol forum held last spring. The Pass/Fail option rouses very strong and ardent views from students and faculty alike and we would like to hear everyone's take.

The EAC will hold an open discussion during Winter Term to address the future of the proposal. Before this occurs, faculty and students alike must voice their grievances or deliver their praise. By addressing the debate beforehand, we can hope to work toward a compromise that would allow Pass/Fail while addressing any potential problems.

## Endowed with rights, inalienable and conditional

Henry Kissinger, the fierce former Secretary of State, never wavered in his commitment to American security despite certain reprehensible consequences to auxiliary parties. He once said, "While we should never give up our principles, we must also realize that we cannot maintain our principles unless we survive." At what point do we, as a country, decide that we must sacrifice rights to ensure the status quo and the safety of our citizens?

This brings me to the notion of certain "inalienable rights" that we, as a society, generally feel are a good thing. Is it our government's duty to defend these rights? What happens when the law (and those who enforce it) starts to infringe on constitutional rights and jeopardizes freedoms that are supposed to be eternally upheld? Ultimately, people need to speak up and voice their discontent or future trespasses will continue.

Recently, a number of troubling news stories have alluded to the advent of certain laws and actions that have the ACLU's freedom-loving undies in a bunch.

One of these rights is the right to privacy. Large-scale government surveillance is a familiar motif in most "Big Brother" totalitarian novels, but it is also a current reality.

Police are utilizing license plate readers to track the automotive movements of citizens. The digitized information of your movements is being tracked, logged and stored in databases for current (or future) surveillance purposes. The Washington, D.C., Police Department frequently uses this technology and it has proven rather useful in tracking alleged killers or criminals. But the implementation of this practice has received little to no coverage in public or legislative debate. Some people may think the security usages trump any invasion of privacy that other drivers might incur. But do we allow certain trespasses on our right to privacy? Is this merely foreshadowing future intrusions and tracking of citizens? At what point do we say that certain inalienable rights are all-inclusive and absolute, rather than conditional?

Another one of these celebrated rights is our right to trial by jury. Contained in our sixth amendment, this clause ensures that the government and the citizen must always be held accountable by others. The government could never imprison someone without giving him or her the right to defend himself or herself, regardless of the status of the case. This right has been questionably denied to foreign citizens, as

seen in Guantánamo Bay, but now it might be denied to U.S. citizens as well.

The Senate is considering authorizing unlawful detention for anyone that the President deems a threat. Sections 1031 and 1032 of the Defense Authorization bill would give the President the authority to "indefinitely imprison people, without charge or trial, both abroad and inside the United States." This is all done under the guise of safety and expediency. But what happens when a mistake is made? What happens when an innocent citizen is wrongfully detained and is never given a trial?

Enumerated in the Bill of Rights, the Founding Father ensured the right of the people to assemble peacefully. The police, as an arm of the law, should also respect this right; but recent peaceful protests have been forcibly and violently broken up by overly aggressive enforcement officers.

The Occupy movement has been characterized in recent news by a slew of police brutality incidents. Peaceful protesters, most notably at UC Berkeley and UC Davis, have been beaten, clubbed and pepper-sprayed for non-aggressive protests. In the UC Davis protest, students were beaten with clubs after locking arms — deemed a violent maneuver by the cops who subsequently beat and pepper-sprayed the students. At an Occupy Seattle protest, a pregnant woman was pepper-sprayed while sitting down amidst a crowd of riot police. She was sprayed with mace and, despite yelling at the officers about her pregnancy, the police did not stop. She experienced a miscarriage after the protest and alleges that it was the pepper-spray that induced it. Is this indicative of the current state of police-citizen relations in the country? Not necessarily, but it's symbolic of a larger issue of the relationship between the state and its citizens.

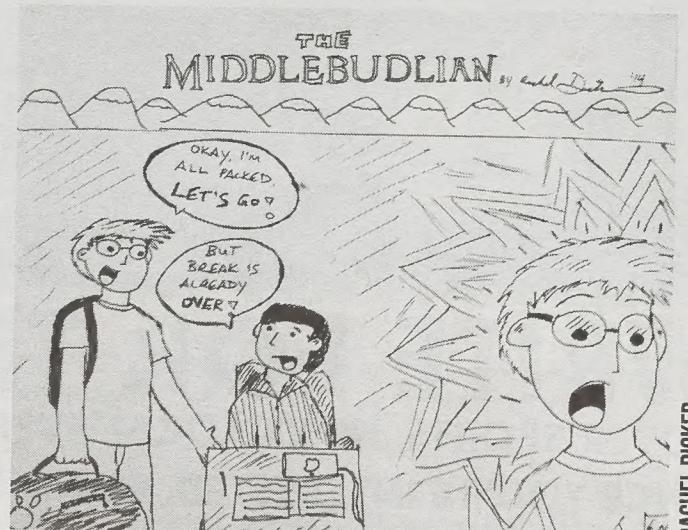
After 9/11, many people were willing to endorse questionable trespasses on our rights to ensure safety and security in a perilous time. The trouble comes when these temporary measures become entrenched in the system and compromise the rights of citizens. It may come to us having to define when it is appropriate to suspend such rights. Or maybe, this process would be too messy and the tenets should remain, as they were originally drafted — "inalienable."

Do I have solutions or answers for what to do about these developments? No. But dialogue is the key to change, so if we continue to address and discuss infringements of our rights, the public conscience will inevitably have to confront the issues at hand and decide if our rights are something we can sacrifice when the times comes.

## HEARD ON CAMPUS //

*Food is how I make all my friends ... It's a sneaky way to combine friend groups that don't always intersect.*

— APRIL DODD '13



# Media and the Court

As media have developed, government has seen fit to utilize cameras in many ways: select Congressional hearings were aired beginning in 1948, with full coverage of House and Senate proceedings broadcasted starting in 1979 and 1986, respectively; the first televised State of the Union address, given by Harry Truman, occurred in 1947, thereby establishing a pattern of televised presidential speeches; and the judiciary had its first experience with cameras in

1976, when Alabama and Washington allowed them. At present, cameras are allowed in at least some courts of every state. There is one court, though, that refuses to allow its proceedings to be recorded on camera: the Supreme Court.

With the imminent arrival of the health care case *Florida, et al vs. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services*, many — including CSPAN, who has offered to televise it — have called on the high court to allow cameras into their chambers for the five and a half hour-long session of oral arguments. Proponents of televised Supreme Court coverage cite transparency and access as reasons, arguing that it is important that the American public feel as though they are a part of the decision-making processes of the Court.

This is not a new issue. In the past 14 years, Congress has debated at least one bill each year demanding that the Supreme Court open its doors to cameras. Each effort thus far has, rightly, failed.

While there is intrigue to the idea of televising the Court's proceedings, it is ultimately counterproductive to its goals. The Supreme Court — more so than other branches of government — should remain, as much as possible, free from public pressure. The Court's proceedings do not function like trial cases; instead, lawyers present cases before the justices, and the justices are free to interrupt them at any time to ask questions. There is no jury; thus, there tend to be no grandstanding or impassioned arguments. The only viewing audience for both the lawyers and the justices is each other. By introducing cameras, though, the psychology of presenting cases changes. Speaking to this, former Chief Justice William Rehnquist, in a 2001 interview, said the following: "In some

jurisdictions where they have tried televising, there's a feeling that it affects the way at least the lawyers behave. And I suspect it may affect the way judges behave too." Thus, instead of lawyers working to convince the judiciary, who is to be carefully and thoughtfully weighing Constitutional questions, the Court would be bastardized into another avenue to persuade the public.

An argument could be made that this political grandstanding — which is, necessarily, bad — would also occur in televised Congressional hearings and, thus, is not unique to the Court. The distinction here, though, is that Congress voted to place cameras in its chambers. The decision was not imposed on them from elsewhere, as Congress is trying to do to the Court. While the branches are meant to be a check on one another, they were never meant to — and never should — tell

one another how to run. And, at present, there is no consensus of desire among the justices to have cameras.

Additionally, by televising arguments, the chief issues of the United States — which, unique to the judiciary, come in the form of problems specific to certain people, with their names on each case — makes individuals' lives fodder for

evening (or afternoon, or morning) television, without their consent.

Articulating this, Antonin Scalia, in 2005, said: "We don't want to become entertainment. I think there's something sick about making entertainment out of real people's legal problems. I don't like it in the lower courts, and I particularly don't like it in the Supreme Court." By televising proceedings, the entire process of the Court — which seeks to resolve grievances — is devalued.

Finally, there are other methods, already in place, that provide the transparency and access to information that proponents of cameras desire, without the adverse effects of televised proceedings. Each day, after oral arguments are heard, transcripts are posted on the Supreme Court website; their audio versions are available on Friday afternoons. Supreme Court opinions are available online once announced, and briefs for each case are available on the website. Each of these things gives people all of the information they desire — every bit of every case — without producing theatrics from either lawyers or justices, complicating balance of power questions or violating individuals' privacy.

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## ORDER IN THE COURT

Kelsi Morgan '14 is from Owasso, Okla.

founders could not have imagined the contemporary need to specifically define the rights pertaining to gay Americans, abortion, affirmative action, etc. The idea of men not only flying on airplanes, but also hiding bombs in their underwear on these planes in order to kill Americans would be equally as implausible. These new tactics used by American enemies in the War on Terror underscore the necessity for pragmatism, rather than idealism, when defending this nation. During the GOP debate, candidate Ron Paul expressed an impractical devotion to the supremacy of individual liberty over the security of our nation, without thought to extenuating circumstances. This strict Libertarian dedication to individual liberty, in this case, ignores the essential development of U.S. intelligence and defense in order to combat the new tactics and style of warfare used by terrorists against the United States. The Necessary and Proper Clause authorizes the enactment of laws necessary to fulfill government responsibilities enumerated in the Constitution. The Patriot Act, because of the new enemy America faces today in the War on Terror, provides the U.S. government with the means to protect its citizens.

ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Katie Earle '12 is from Bedminster, N.J.

# Patrick Henry: Give me liberty, too

Last Tuesday, GOP candidates gathered to discuss foreign policy issues at the CNN National Security Debate. The debate exposed distinct differences among the Republican candidates on how to deal with security threats from our enemies overseas. A major point of contention between the candidates arose when debating the Patriot Act.

A main tenet of the Republican Party is its insistence on small government. However, when it comes to national security, a majority of Republicans will condone a larger role of the state. The preamble of the United States Constitution accounts for this exception by enumerating the common defense of our nation as a principle responsibility of the U.S. government.

During the CNN debate, the latest GOP front-runner Newt Gingrich emphasized the critical distinction between national security and criminal law requirements. Gingrich insisted that the right to innocence until proven guilty goes unquestioned when pertaining to criminal law. However, the former Speaker of the House stressed the necessity of employing all means necessary to prevent terrorists from killing innocent Americans.

**The founders wrote the Constitution in broad, flexible terms not only to ensure its ratification, but also to allow for its survival long into the future.**

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are the unalienable rights over which the American Revolution was fought. However, the former is unattainable without assurance of the latter. By this I mean that without liberty the common man could not engage in the pursuit of happiness and, most importantly, without life there could be no liberties. I clarify this to underscore the necessity of the Patriot Act to protect American citizens. In order to prevent the loss of life experienced on 9/11, President George W. Bush signed the Patriot Act into law on Oct. 26, 2001. This act served to provide law enforcement with the necessary additional tools in order to prevent another terrorist attack on American soil. Critics of the law have argued that the act threatens Americans' civil liberties. The main controversy surrounds the use of National Security Letters that serve as subpoenas, which the FBI and other government agencies can utilize to request non-content information, such as phone numbers and emails, without judicial oversight or probable cause.

I do not agree that the Patriot Act defies the U.S. Constitution. The founders wrote the Constitution in broad, flexible terms not only to ensure its ratification, but also to allow for its survival long into the future. The

To justify an expansion of government to ensure this country's security, Gingrich drew attention to the sheer scale of destruction that would result from a successful nuclear attack by terrorists against an American city. I can further rationalize this act by estimates that report at least 42 terrorist attempts have been thwarted since 9/11, in large part due to the new measures permitted under the Patriot Act.

However, the Super Committee's recent failure to come to a consensus on how to reduce the U.S. deficit could trigger an automatic \$600 billion spending cut for the Pentagon. This adds to the \$350 billion cut already slated for the U.S. defense budget. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta has expressed grave concerns about the country's future safety assuming nearly \$1 trillion in spending cuts. Therefore, unlike Patrick Henry, I won't be screaming, "Give me liberty, or give me death" in the face of extremism. Instead, I throw my support behind the Patriot Act as an extra line of defense against the terrorist threat facing the United States today.

# Rights, privileges and respect

So I was just in Proctor chatting with a good friend of mine on a sports team, right? And she and her teammates were waiting for the dining hall staff to prepare more meat, since they had recently run out, largely due to "Less Meat Mondays" — a project of the Environmental Economics class (ECON 0265), right? And then they started to tear pretty intensely into

Wrong.

Despite being a sometimes extremely narrow-minded environmentalist, I can wrap my mind around a situation where vegetarianism may not be conducive to a particular way of living. I can process the arguments for undertaking different kinds of environmental action that are less behaviorally charged, and I am open to the notion that after exercising, one's patience for waiting in food lines dwindles.

But I am closed to the idea that with hunger can come an abandonment of basic human decency. I am unwilling to accept a situation where rational, respectful conversation about competing ideologies is amiss; incapable of embracing contrarianism when opportunities to learn and ask questions are right in front of one's face.

And most of all, I reject a filter on the world based exclusively on rights. That may seem pretty odd, considering I'm someone who tries to fight for the right to a clean environment, to community, to safety and respect. But at a certain level, the idea that everything either represents an upholding of or an infringement upon one's rights is neither a productive nor a grounded way of viewing the world.

We do not have a "right" to eat whatever we want at the very second when we want it to materialize. We do not have a "right" to be disrespectful to students who have cleared time from their busy lives to engage in genuine, edified debate with us about one of the world's most pressing ideological issues, just as we do not have a "right" to take bowls out of the dining hall and deposit them on the pathways or drunkenly

destroy property because someone paid \$50,000+ for us to go here. We have instead, privileges, my friends.

Privilege sucks. But privileges like ours are awe-striking, wonderful, lucky things, and they should be honored for their rarity.

And don't get me wrong — that doesn't mean changing lifestyles or agreeing with everyone about everything. It means talking it out; talking it out with that economics student who is increasingly conscious of the astonishing energy, health, labor and environmental impacts of meat production; talking it out with that custodial staff member who is cleaning up after us; talking it out with me because you think this column is preachy or mean or unconstructive. I'm willing to bet that we'll be a closer community if we do.

## THE ID AND THE ECO

Rhiya Trivedi '12 is from Toronto, Canada.

the few members of the class who had made themselves available to answer questions about said project, right? And that's okay, right? Because they're athletes and they've just practiced definitely harder than I've worked out in years and protein is essential for that kind of lifestyle, right?

## The lucky winners of \$252.4 million

Early last month, three executives from an asset management (investment) firm based in Greenwich, Conn., won the \$252.4 million jackpot from the Powerball lottery game. After taxes, these three men stand to collect more than \$100 million, taking a \$151.7

million lump sum rather than all \$252.4 million in an annuity package.

### BUT THEN AGAIN

Addi DiSesa '12 is from Wynnewood, Pa. in the New York Times on

Monday identified the winners, who live in multimillion-dollar homes in the affluent Connecticut suburb. Titled "The Rich Get, Well, Richer," the article strove to paint a picture of the wealthy as the lucky ones in our society. They are. We are. I am.

I played in the \$252.4 million sweepstakes last month. In playing, I believed that perhaps I could be the lucky winner. Though I knew winning outright would be unlikely, some sort of vain, deluded hope of mine enabled my far-off fantasy to gain momentum and culminate in the purchase of a \$1 ticket. I wanted to be the lucky one; despite all that I have now, somehow winning \$252.4 million would make me luckier, and I could afford to enjoy a touch more luck. Now a week removed from the Thanksgiving holiday, I feel more than a little embarrassed for having pined for this boost of luck. But rather than wax self-righteous about my personal weakness for seeking further material gain to temper my luck deprivation, I would rather make a comment on the topical symbolism of three investment bankers taking home the largest prize in Connecticut state lottery history (the money comes from a national lottery pool, but the Connecticut state lottery board receives recognition for the state that sold the winning ticket).

Rich people are lucky. As Elizabeth Warren, the Harvard professor and candidate for United States Senate

from the state of Massachusetts, whose major claim to fame comes from her time as President Barack Obama's choice to create the Consumer Financial Protection Agency, has said in the past and will probably say again over the course of her campaign, "There is nobody in this country who got rich on his own. Nobody." Among other things (i.e. access to adequate schools, good parenting, favorable employment conditions, strong familial, collegiate or other personal connections, et cetera) most wealthy people in the United States can attribute their success to luck, in part. I say again, rich people are lucky. The 1 percent against which the 99 percent of the Occupy movements are protesting around the country is lucky.

I am a lucky person. A significant portion of that luck derives from the fact that my family is wealthy. My family is part of the 1 percent. (Interestingly, in more than one of my classes, professors have polled my classmates and found that very few Middlebury students identify as upper class, ill-defined though class distinctions may be. And fewer still are eager to call themselves rich. More than half of us pay full annual tuition.) I have been lucky my entire life to have been free from material or emotional want. My family is rich. My family is also lucky. My family is rich and, therefore, also lucky. The rich are lucky.

Not only are the three men who won the \$252.4 million jackpot rich and, therefore, lucky, they are also just lucky. They are lucky to have been born rich or to have made riches on their own or to have won richness in the lottery. Such richness and such luckiness are normal in the United States of America. Every so often, we forget this simple fact. Let's not act so surprised and appalled that rich people won the lottery; instead let's chalk it up to their luckiness. How else could we explain their initial wealth, even before their most recent cash influxes? Of course these three Greenwich men are lucky; they are rich and rich people in America are lucky.

## The other "N" word

Two weeks ago, Middlebury College witnessed a painful illustration of how language can cross the line between constructive discourse and hate speech. At the "Breaking the Silence" talk, in which a former Israeli soldier shared his experiences serving in the West Bank, a member of the audience provocatively asserted the moral equivalence of Israel and the Nazis. Not only is this

comparison factually incorrect, but it is deeply offensive and hurtful, and the antithesis of the well-meaning exchange of ideas that should be a daily part of campus life.

The goal of the Nazis was to eradicate the Jewish people, plain and simple. They rounded them up, branded their arms like animals, shipped them in cattle cars to concentration camps and murdered them in history's most notorious genocide. There was no purpose to the Holocaust other than pure racial hatred.

While life for the Palestinians is far from ideal, to compare it to the Jewish experience under the Nazi regime is misguided at best. Sick Palestinians in both Israel and the West Bank are treated in Israeli hospitals, and share rooms with Jews. Palestinians living in Israel vote and are represented in the legislature. Polls show that Palestinians in East Jerusalem prefer to live in Israel over any neighboring Arab country, all dictatorships, and over a Palestinian state. When Israel unilaterally withdrew from Gaza in 2005, Hamas

responded by firing rockets across the border at Israeli civilians. When Israel retaliated, Hamas used its own civilians as human shields because it knew that Israel would go to great lengths to avoid civilian casualties.

These facts do not show moral equivalence between the Nazis and Israel in any way. As thoughtful and informed people, we owe it to ourselves to be more respectful of the truth. But, beyond our commitment to the truth, we owe each other a higher moral duty. We owe a level of sensitivity that acknowledges the special circumstances of certain members of our community.

College campuses thrive on honest discussion and open dialogue. Students, faculty and community members are encouraged to exchange ideas, listen to and respect others. But, as in this case, there is a line between valuable information and offensive discourse that should not be crossed. For people like me, whose grandfather fought in World War II and whose family died en masse in the camps, this wound is too raw. There really should be no Nazi comparisons, and let's hope the world never experiences a tragedy that truly warrants such a comparison.

It is important to remember that the issue is not the propriety of criticizing Israel. Both Israel and its Arab neighbors are worthy of criticism, and an objection to the Nazi comparison should not stifle debate on the conflict or hinder opportunities for understanding. But to bring the "N" word into the discussion is beyond the boundaries of the conflict. It is a comparison that cannot be tolerated.

## Getting both sides

It is disappointing to see lazy journalism in the *Campus*, but that is exactly what Kyle Finck's article on hazing was. I was astonished that an article so blatantly one-sided would be admitted to the *Campus*. Even more astounding was that it was put on the front page. Finck could have tried to disguise his bias with at least a glimpse of the other side of the issue, but not only were there no interviews with anyone who feels differently from Reed and Sonntag, there was not even a hint that the opposite opinion was legitimate. Maybe it is hard to find people who will come forth about the hazing problems at Tavern and KDR, but it is the responsibility of a good journalist to do exactly that. At least Finck

could have interviewed the Public Safety officers and the administration about the allegations. This article belonged in the Opinions section, if it belonged at all. As a friend of someone who personally felt that the

Tavern pledge process was degrading and humiliating, I am very disappointed in

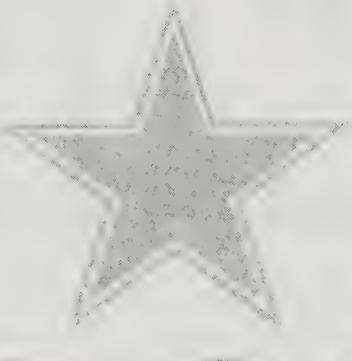
*The Campus's* covering of this controversy. In the future Finck and the editorial board of the *Campus* should work harder to disguise their bias and represent the issues fairly and accurately.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Amelia Furlong '14 is from Conway, Wash.



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# INVESTIGATING INVESTING

*By Jackie Park and Ian Stewart  
Graphic by Ian Stewart*

**S**pread out across the world's economic markets are 854 million of Middlebury's dollars. Their sum is the College's endowment, a permanent fund that supports that both supports the day-to-day operations of the college and provides financial security for future students. The location — in specific funds or companies — of that money, however, is not currently available for review by the college community. It is this lack of transparency that has concerned a number of students and raised hypothetical questions: would we feel comfortable knowing we are investing in companies that use child labor? In big tobacco?

On Nov. 17, Middlebury's Socially Responsible Investing club hosted a panel discussion on the ethics of our endowment. Sitting before the group of about an hundred, Professor of Economics Peter Matthews, Director of Investments and Treasury Operations Derek Hammel, Middlebury College research scholar Randy Kriktauskas, Co-Chair of Student Investment Club Greg Dier '12.5 and student activist Rhiya Trivedi '12.5 discussed the distribution of the \$854 million as well as the feasibility of identifying individual companies. One of the major themes of the roundtable was the concept of SRI: Socially Responsible Investing, a growing trend in the financial world that emphasizes consideration of a company's social and environmental impact.

"I'm still in the process of learning a lot," said SRI club member Marcell Houghton '12.5 after the event. "I am in the club because this stuff is really interesting to me. I want to see how I have an effect on it and I think it is really important to know about where our money is invested in."

The College pools its endowment with nine other institutions — including Smith and Dickinson colleges — who entrust a total of about \$7 billion in the investment management firm Investure. That company identifies a combination of investment vehicles (hedge funds and private equity among others) that they predict will be secure and successful. But, Hammel says, as those funds further invest the pooled dollars it becomes more and more difficult to identify precisely where the money is ending up.

While an expanded focus on SRI would allow the College community to identify qualities of businesses it would or would not

feel comfortable supporting, Kriktauskas noted several drawbacks to SRI, including its relative short presence in the financial world and the difficulty of quantifying the ethics of a company.

Middlebury, however, is experimenting with SRI. The Board of Trustees, which oversees the endowment, decided in May 2010 to put \$4 million towards a Sustainable Investments Initiative. The College was joined in the effort by Dickinson and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (another Investure client), but some students think more needs to be done.

"To wait and say we are going to wait till SRI becomes a mainstream thing depresses me," said Trivedi. "If there is \$900 million dollars out there, compromising what we value, that is not okay."

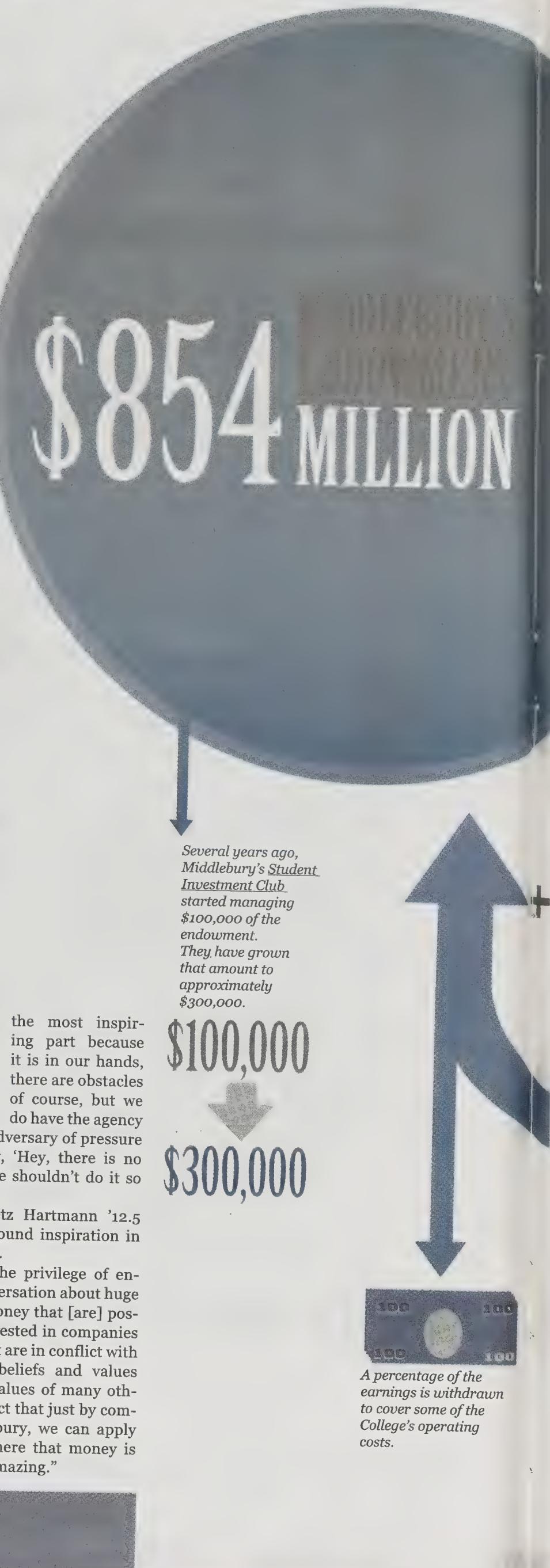
Some of the conversation turned on the possible discrepancy between Middlebury's mission statement that declares a "commitment to integrating environmental stewardship into both our curriculum and our practices on campus" and the chance that the endowment is directly funding a company behaving unsustainably.

"I really liked that they [the panelists] commented on how we are doing really great things to the environment that

are visible here on campus but all of that does not really mean much when our endowment is contradicting our environmental values," said Houghton.

Hammel said that while he is currently tasked with growing the endowment, it would be possible — though potentially time-consuming — to find more specific information on the distribution of the endowment. He added that those requests can be complicated by individual funds' privacy policies. But his suggestions that changes could be made in the College's investment policy were well received by some attendees.

"Derek Hammel said that if the Board of Trustees got a lot of pressure from students and others who are interested then they would start to make the shift on where the money gets invested in or focus on making SRI more of an issue," Houghton said. "That was

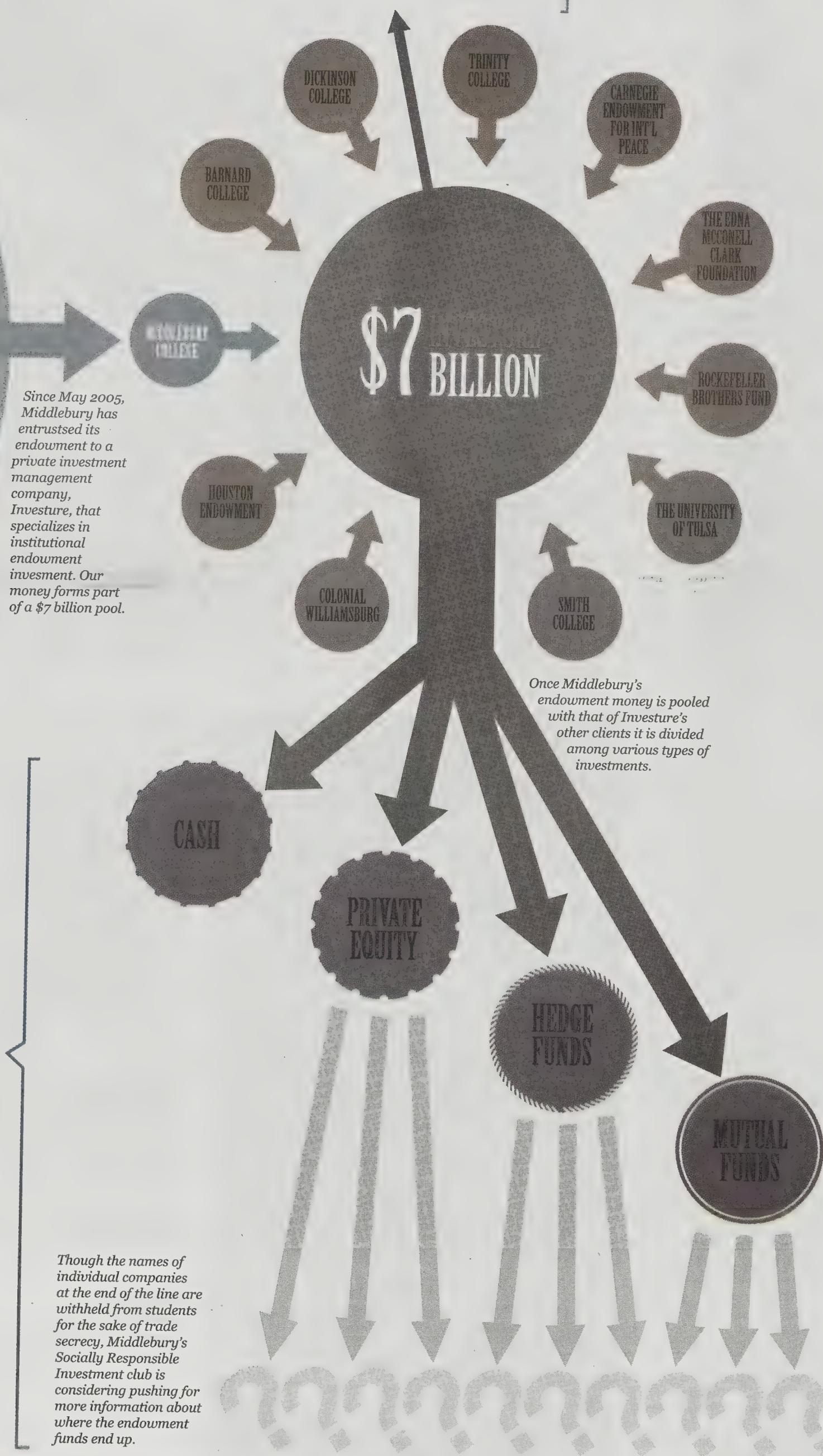


# INVESTMENTS

In May 2010, the Sustainable Investments Initiative was started with Middlebury, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Dickinson College to focus a portion of investment in companies committed to sustainability. Amount contributed from each endowment:

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE: \$4 MILLION  
ROCKEFELLER BROTHERS FUND: \$35-70 MILLION  
DICKINSON COLLEGE: \$1 MILLION

Middlebury's Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investment, whose five student members have privileged access to information from the administration and serve as a liaison between the administration and the student body. They have a confidential list of the top 10 holdings of the Sustainable Investments Initiative which represents 30% of those assets.



# Lust AT LEAST

BY CLAIRE SIBLEY

It's been said before: sex is a language. It has its own phrases and clichés, exceptions and contractions. But the act of sex is part of a different and amorphous literature, writing a history of how two people relate.

This is not as lofty as it sounds. Everyone you've met has a page that you authored somewhere in their history. In relating to someone sexually — whether casually or with long-term intent — the permanence of your ink can be frightening. How do you begin to get to know someone you're attracted to?

Given mutual interest, this question can quickly begin to sound something like this: How soon should I sleep with her/him?

Historically, this issue is obviously gendered. It seems slightly redundant to launch into a tirade about the perception of women as sluts who are quick to have sex, and the seeming lack of consequence for men who do so. Of course this comes from the biological fact that for females the results of intercourse are visually obvious: barring the Virgin Mother, it's hard to find an alternative explanation of pregnancy.

But in an age where pregnancy is preventable, I believe the question of "when" should stop being as gendered as in the age of cave people. And to be honest, I don't know if you should have slept with so-and-so after that party last week, or with the ex you still have feelings for — but you probably do. That is to say, there is no tried-and-true time period after which it becomes a good idea to bone someone. Sex means something to everyone, and it's difficult to divine what it means to someone you're just beginning to get to know. Furthermore, what sex will mean between the two of you can change. Unlike roses or war communiqués, there is no static code-book for a person's sexuality that asks to be cracked.

The first question to ask yourself in contemplating intercourse is desire. There is no reason to have sex with someone you don't want to have sex with — sex without desire often becomes a power-play or a regret. If the person you've been seeing for a while doesn't want to have sex with you, it's not wrong to be frustrated — but it is wrong to be frustrated with them, or too angrily expectant. Intimacy is not a push-button system, and unlike Tetris, you can't win just by putting the puzzle pieces into the right places. Have a civil conversation with your partner about your feelings and then go spend some quality time with your dominant hand.

On the other hand, if you're seeing someone you don't want to have sex with right now (or ever), discuss it with them. And ask yourself, are you attracted to this person? If the answer is no, perhaps rethink the terms of your relationship. If the answer is yes, try to be comfortable enough to let that person know you think they're sexy and work through whatever difficulty they're having.

The question of first-encounter sex seems like a lot of guesswork: guys who want to have sex on the first date often worry about sending the message of only wanting sex (or being a predatory jerk) and closing the road to intimacy. Women who want to have sex on a first date often worry about being considered easy. When these things happen at the same time, erotic tension can often leave a pair flushed and frustrated. While I would never say sex on a first date is necessary, I would discourage pathologizing it. It may be true that Woman X just wants to sleep with you tonight — and if that's also what you want, wrap up and have fun; but if it feels alien or unnatural, wait a while. As with all sex, failure lies in assumptions. But, like every great work of literature, desire is neither logical nor translatable, and could mean anything or nothing.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: APRIL DODD

By Kirtley Righi

"I started baking this summer," said April Dodd '13. "It's funny; people think this is something I exited the womb doing."

Who could blame them? It's hard to believe a baker with only a few months of experience is already preparing weekly brunches of kolache or potica for up to 20 people.

I met Dodd on a Wednesday night in the basement kitchen of Gifford where she was busily grating stick after stick of chilled butter into a bowl heaping with flour. I watched her practiced hands fold the contents of the bowl in a steady rhythm and emerge with a mound of piecrust dough. Dodd and her roommate, Amanda Reis '13, were preparing a weekend brunch for their entire dorm, explaining that nearly 50 students might attend. It was then clear I was speaking to a resident foodie of Middlebury and that it would be a travesty to call her a beginner.

Every Friday night, Dodd sends out a text to 20 lucky souls inviting them to a Saturday brunch of homemade baked goods.

"Food is how I make all my friends," Dodd explained. "Not everyone knows each other. It's a sneaky way to combine friend groups that don't always intersect."

There are a few regulars on Dodd's invite list, but she enjoys adding new faces to the crowd and creating an environment where students from her Russian class can mingle with friends from her first-year hall.

"Everyone's interested in food," she said. There's no arguing with that.

The weekly brunch has been a huge success. Dodd has prepared banana sticky rolls, yeast donuts, cinnamon rolls, cranberry scones and a variety of biscotti. Her food roster has also included kolache (a pastry made with cream cheese, apple and poppy seed) and potica (a Yugoslavian sweet walnut bread).

"I really like yeast," said Dodd. "The idea behind these brunches is to work with breads."

Dodd has a handful of friends who are interested in learning to bake and she always welcomes them to join her in the kitchen.

"I love teaching people," Dodd said while checking the cinnamon swirl loaves in the oven.

The heavenly smell of freshly baked bread permeates the small kitchen. "There's always a runt," Dodd laughs in reference to the smallest of the three loaves.

Dodd first became interested in baking when she was home in Lexington, Ky. this past summer, when she asked her mother to teach her how to knead dough and bake bread from scratch.

"I just got hooked on it," Dodd said and quipped that her toned biceps were proof of her kneading practice. "I trial and error-ed everything from bread to ravioli."

Some recipes, like her mother's famous banana sticky rolls, were surprisingly easy for Dodd to bake on her own. Dodd's list of ingredients is criminally short for such a delicious treat: "bananas, Bisquick and some sugar. It's utilitarian and tasty."

Dodd's Saturday brunches do not demand overly ambitious recipes as long as what she prepares is "fundamentally delicious." Dodd stores all baking supplies in Gifford and she said students have been generally respectful. She told an amusing anecdote about the overnight disappearance of a half-gallon of milk. Upon returning to Gifford in the morning, Dodd opened the fridge to discover that the half-gallon was missing and seven glasses of milk sat in its place. "I guess I had a considerate thief," Dodd joked.

Dodd is an independent Linguistics Studies major and hopes to incorporate her passion for baking with her study of language. In the spring, Dodd will spend a semester in Bordeaux, France, where she plans to enroll in culinary classes and



April Dodd bakes a weekly brunch for a lucky assortment of friends.

spend time cooking with her French host family.

Dodd explained that her study of French came before her interest in baking. The fact that she will live in the country she calls "bread central" is a lucky coincidence. As a student of French, Spanish and Russian, Dodd hopes to combine foreign languages with the study of bread to create a context in which she can explore other cultures.

"Bread," said Dodd, "is a worldwide phenomenon."

At the end of our interview, I asked what menu she arranged for the upcoming dorm-wide brunch. Dodd and Reis planned to bake five spinach and mushroom quiches, three loaves of cinnamon swirl bread, four sweet pumpkin walnut breads, thirty-six banana sticky buns, three large bags of homemade granola and two breakfast pizzas. Dodd was concerned about leftovers.

"Having food that goes to waste is a terrible feeling," Dodd told me. From the smell of things, I hardly thought that would be an issue.

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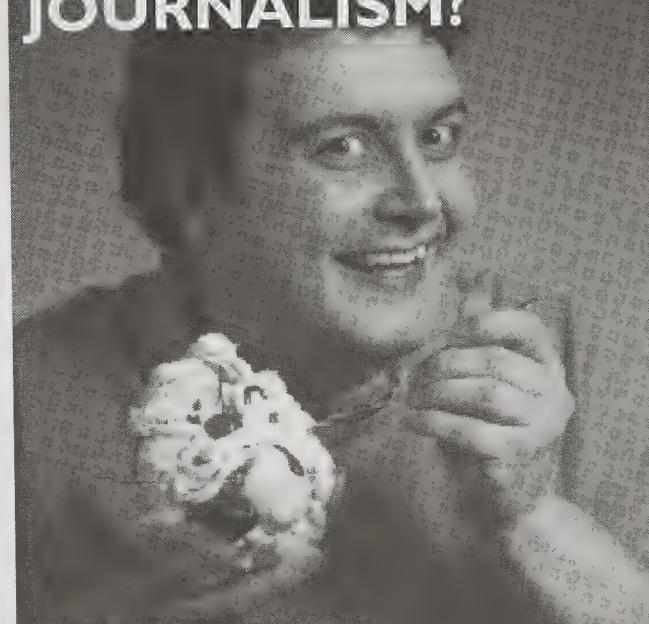
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# Crossroads serves turkey dinner

By Geoffrey Brown

Whether you travelled across the country last week to be with your family or just decided to spend the weekend with a few friends, Thanksgiving represents a time to come together, a time to relax and reconnect with our loved ones. But for many of us here at Middlebury, going home was not an option this Thanksgiving. With the holidays looming so close on the horizon, it is not practical for many members of our school's large, international community to travel home for such a short break. Many national students opt to remain on campus as well. Regardless of where you're from, staying on campus for the holidays away from family can be quite a lonely experience.

With that in mind, the Crossroads Café hosted a Thanksgiving dinner last week for those students who remained on campus in the hopes of providing them with a great meal in a warm, welcoming environment away from home.

According to Crossroads Café co-manager David Dolika, the objective was simple: "We knew we had the facilities to provide a special evening for our friends who otherwise had few options for the evening," he said. Keeping the international student body in mind, Crossroads Café also sought to "provide a taste of an American Thanksgiving celebration for international students who may have never enjoyed such an experience."

The event kicked off with speeches from members of supporting student groups ISO (International Student Organization), DMC (Distinguished Men of Color) and VIP (Voices of Indigenous people) followed by a traditional American Thanksgiving dinner made from locally grown, organic food. The menu included classic Thanksgiving staples such as turkey, mashed potatoes and cranberry sauce, but the Crossroads crew didn't stop there and served up some more exotic fare.

"We had a little fun with the meal and also served sushi!" said Dolika.

Roughly 80 students attended the event and their response was overwhelmingly positive. The combined efforts of these



COURTESY: DAVID DOLIKA

Nick Derrico '12 ate at the Crossroads Thanksgiving dinner with fellow students.

student organizations paid off wonderfully, giving their peers a delicious family-style feast while creating an opportunity to come together and make new friends. One of the students attending, Brittany Gendron '12, was grateful to the Crossroads staff and supporting students groups.

"It was great to be with my extended Middlebury family, and even make a few new friends," she said. "The food was delicious; the atmosphere was just this electric excitement, a lovely evening all the way around."

The experience was well received by many international students, especially by first-years experiencing their first Thanksgiving in America.

Teresa Wolverton '12 of the ISO reflected on the welcoming atmosphere of the dinner: "It was nice for students to be able to spend the holiday with their Middlebury family since most of us couldn't make it home to see our own families."

Students stayed in McCullough long after the meal was finished to socialize, play pool and videogames or watch movies. Several grateful students even stayed behind to help the Crossroads staff clean up the area.

By far the most popular late-night activity was the DMC-sponsored poker tournament. DMC also hosted a similar Thanksgiving dinner for students last year. DMC member Felipe Guevara '12 explained the organization's involvement in planning the evening.

"DMC decided to help Crossroads Café because we saw it as an opportunity to provide a safe and comfortable space to those unable to go home," he said. "We wanted to create a warm and comfortable space for everyone who stayed behind."

Aside from bringing students together for a good time, Crossroads Café wanted to give back to the Middlebury community at large. Students who attended the event were each charged \$5 and the proceeds were donated to H.O.P.E., a local poverty outreach group. In total, over \$400 was raised for the local organization which will be given to those in need in our area.

Overall, the night was a success and everything ran smoothly without a hitch. "It was really nice to see many new faces in the Crossroads. I loved the event because it brought in a different group of people," said Dolika.

Today is World AIDS day! We are raising awareness in this column and on campus. UNAIDS estimates that there is currently 33.3 million people living with HIV, and that 2.5 million of those are children. In Rwanda, where our GlobeMed chapter currently supports a project, an estimated 2.9 percent of all adults are currently living with the virus.

Although most people with HIV/AIDS live in lower-income countries, it is a threat to people across the world regardless of gender, age, location or socioeconomic status. In the U.S. for example, the Center for Disease Control estimates that over a million Americans have HIV/AIDS, with about twenty percent undiagnosed. Globally, UNAIDS estimates that 2.6 million people became newly infected with HIV and an additional 1.8 million people died from AIDS (according to estimates from 2009).

Currently, there is no cure. HIV is a virus that constantly mutates and has developed multiple mechanisms to bypass the immune response. Diversity also emerges when two separate strains of the virus infect the same cell, creating a combination strain. This complicates medical treatment, and researchers have not been able to design a vaccine capable of protecting against all the different strains. However, a vaccine tested in a clinical trial completed in Thailand in 2009 showed promise in being 31 percent effective in preventing HIV infection. Although the success of the vaccine is not enough to warrant widespread use, it is being developed through further research.

Since 1988, World AIDS Day has worked towards bringing awareness to the fact that HIV is still prevalent and there is still much we can do including raising money and improving education. According to Avert, an organization that works towards the prevention of AIDS through education, the theme for World AIDS Day 2011 is "Getting to Zero" meaning, "Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths." Discrimination is of particular importance because HIV is stigmatized in many societies, for example, the belief that the disease is due to a moral fault of the person or that the disease can be transmitted through saliva.

As you may have read in our Nov. 10 update, Middlebury's GlobeMed chapter is currently working with Gardens for Health International (GHI), a non-profit grass roots organization, on improving the health and living conditions of those affected by HIV/ AIDS in Rwanda. Specifically, we are working on providing funding for home irrigation systems to help improve nutrition, especially to those affected by the disease. By doing so, we hope to help interrupt the vicious cycle of malnutrition that allows the disease to be sustained.

This World AIDS day you can help raise awareness by wearing red to demonstrate care and compassion and to remind others of the need for support. We encourage you to wear the red ribbons and T-shirts that we will be handing out! Also, don't miss GlobeMed's screening of *A Closer Walk* at 7:30 p.m. in McCordell Bicentennial Hall 104.

## GLOBE MED UPDATE

**ABBY DILL**  
Neuroscience Major  
GlobeMed member

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## Athletes enjoy Thanksgiving with teammates

By Alexandra Strott

For most Middlebury students, Thanksgiving break started on a Tuesday and culminated around a home-cooked turkey. However, many athletes celebrated the holiday with their teams on campus or on the road because winter sports teams start to kick into gear in late November. However, the athletes' unique schedules didn't prohibit them from having a fun-filled holiday. In fact, many of them celebrated in style.

Thanksgiving break marks the beginning of on-snow training for both the Alpine and Nordic Ski teams at Middlebury. According to Bronwyn Oatley '13 of the women's alpine ski team, "[E]ach year everyone gets together and cooks a wicked Thanksgiving meal."

This year, the alpine teams gathered at the home of Bryan Shpall '13 in Englewood, Col., conveniently located near Vail, where the Alpine teams spent the week at a training camp.

Similarly, the nordic ski teams also traveled out west to West Yellowstone, Mont., for the week to train on snow as is their tradition.

"It is a pretty awesome thing," said Sophie McClelland '11.5 of the team. "West Yellowstone is like a beehive attracting skiers across the nation."

Both teams experienced quality time on the snow and also bonding with their teammates and coaches.

Another team that experienced a different type of break was the men's hockey team. Head Coach Bill Beaney explained that while the team practiced every day, and earlier in the day than they normally do, the Thanksgiving holiday was a "nice break for them to recharge their batteries," to take "a break from the rigors of academics" and to be "able to focus more on the hockey."

And although the entire men's hockey team stayed on campus during break, most players still got the opportunity to spend time with family when parents came up Thanksgiving day to help cook a meal with the team. Athletes and their parents came together in the Kenyon lounge to prepare the big Thanksgiving meal. Moreover, these parents and more gathered again over the next two days to support the team at their home games the following Friday and Saturday.

urday.

"I think it helps with the team coming together as a unit when you spend time like that. I think a lot of positive comes out of it from a bonding standpoint," said Beaney.

All in all, it was a successful break for the men's hockey team. The one downside?

"I couldn't get them to come out and do any yard work at my house," said Beaney.

The holiday of Thanksgiving has always been regarded as the time to come together with friends, family and acquaintances to celebrate the act of giving. For those of us who are not on a team at Middlebury that was required to stay back over break, we got to spend this time with our families back home. But the athletes who either stayed behind or went elsewhere with their teams got to experience the holiday with a different type of family. As Coach Beaney expressed, Thanksgiving was a nice time to lay off the academics, but that doesn't mean all athletes had a lack of work to do. They were busy building bonds and prepping for the months ahead that they will spend together. And isn't that what Thanksgiving is really all about?

## WINNERS LOSERS

**LESS-MEAT MONDAYS**  
Environmentally vegetarian options in the dining halls.

**MUSCLEY MACHOS**  
Sorry, you'll have to find protein elsewhere. Quinoa, eggs and yogurt anybody?

**SEASON OF GIVING**  
Whether it's a gift or just a smile, 'tis the season!

**SHOPPING IN VT**  
...looks like mom and dad are getting another Midd T-shirt this year.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**  
Who doesn't love a happy jingle?

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**  
...but they get old fast.

In addition to their bi-monthly column, GlobeMed at Middlebury keeps a blog, which you can find at go/globemed or <http://blogs.middlebury.edu/globemed>.

# IN PRINT

POETRY, PROSE, FICTION, RESEARCH, HUMOR, CARTOGRAPHY, PHOTOGRAPHY — WHATEVER YOUR MEDIUM, WHATEVER YOUR GENRE, THERE'S A PUBLICATION ON CAMPUS FOR YOU. MIDDLEBURY NOT ONLY TRAINS WRITERS AND ARTISTS, THEY ALSO PROVIDE DIFFERENT WAYS FOR STUDENTS TO BECOME MORE AWARE OF THE WORLD AROUND THEM. TO READ SOME INSPIRING POETRY, DISCOVER WHERE MIDD KIDS ARE TRAVELING TO, OR TO JUST HAVE A GOOD LAUGH. THERE ARE MANY PUBLICATIONS THAT CHRONICLE THE LIFE, WRITING AND TALENTS OF MIDDLEBURY STUDENTS. HERE ARE SOME OF THEM!

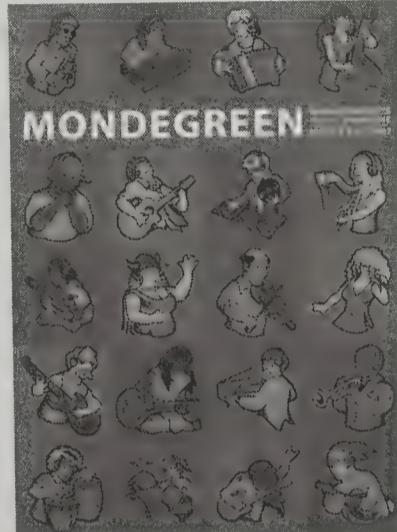
## MIDDLEBURY GEOGRAPHIC

**HISTORY:** The *Middlebury Geographic* was started in 2008 by Geography major Peter Spyrou '10.5. The first issue was published in the spring of 2009. The magazine is modeled after National Geographic and Wired. Its mission is to "capture some of the experiences Middlebury students are having inside and outside the classroom."

**CONTENT:** Writing (500 to 1,500 words), photography, and specific projects. "We tend to get a lot of pieces on overseas experiences but we're also interested in what students are doing closer to home," says primary contact Kyle Hunter '11. The Geographic primarily publishes human interest journalism pieces but also academic pieces and research. "We try to feature some student cartography each issue," adds Hunter. "We're looking to capture Middlebury student experiences."

**TIME OF PUBLICATION:** twice per year, in early December and late April.

**CIRCULATION:** about 300 copies per issue, 6 issues



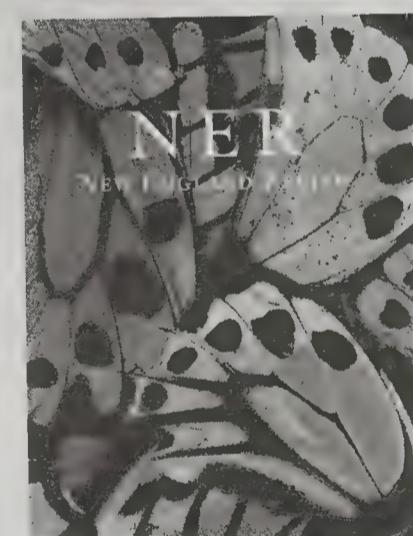
## THE SWEATERVEST

**CONTENT:** *The Sweatervest* is literary magazine which publishes a balance of poetry and prose, and occasionally art and photography. "We accept stuff that we see as innovative or interesting," says co-editor Jarrett Dury-Agri '12. "People are very strange about submitting their work. If your writing is good, it needs to be seen," adds co-editor Alicia Wright '11.5 when reflecting on the students who contribute to the magazine. "There's so much good student literature happening behind closed doors — it's really cool for us to discover people," commented Dury-Agri. *The Sweatervest* allows for anonymous submissions.

**HISTORY:** The Sweatervest was started in 2004 in order to showcase student work.

**TIME OF PUBLICATION:** The Sweatervest is published twice a year: in December or in January and then in the spring. There is also a reading of published works during Winter Term.

**CIRCULATION:** about 400 copies per issue

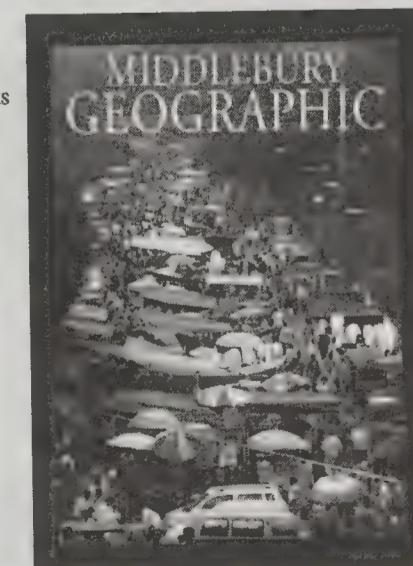


## MONDEGREEN

**HISTORY:** *Mondegreen* was founded to provide students with an outlet to experiment with music writing and cultural criticism.

**CONTENT:** *Mondegreen* is a student run music journal with the aim of exposing students to different kinds of music. "We are committed to providing adequate training so that students may begin their careers as talented, self-sufficient critics, writers, and graphic designers," says Editor Joanna Rothkopf '12.

**TIME OF PUBLICATION:** twice a year, once a semester.



## BLACKBIRD LITERARY MAGAZINE

**CONTENT:** *Blackbird* publishes poetry, prose and short stories. "Blackbird takes student art very seriously," say co-editors Kate Anderson '13 and Rafael Kennedy '13. Submissions accepted on a rolling basis. Anderson and Kennedy encourage those with an interest in writing and publishing and admissions to apply to be readers.

**HISTORY:** Blackbird was founded just a few years ago by Baker Coon '10, Lucas Gonzalez '10, and Christian Brady '12 in order to bring an alternative literary magazine to campus.

**TIME OF PUBLICATION:** Twice a year (next one distributed during the first week of Winter Term). There is a release party open to all during the first school week of 2012.

**CIRCULATION:** 1,500 copies per issue. Copies can be found in the library periodicals section. The editors plan to launch a website soon.

## THE NEW ENGLAND REVIEW

**HISTORY:** The NER was started in 1978 by then Dartmouth faculty members Jay Parini (currently the D. E. Axinn Professor of English & Creative Writing) and Sydney Lea (currently the Poet Laureate of Vermont). The group then joined up with the Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in 1987. The College currently publishes the NER, though the journal relies on much of its own funding. Internships are available for Middlebury students during the school year and summer.

**CONTENT:** The New England Review publishes fiction, poetry, nonfiction, translations, and rediscoveries. "We like to put current writing in the context of the broader culture, as well as the cultures of the past," says Managing Editor Carolyn Kuebler '90.

**TIME OF PUBLICATION:** four times per year.

**CIRCULATION:** 1,800 copies in print, along with electronic copies available through sites like Ebsco and Proquest. You can usually find printed copies in the Davis Library, and administrative offices such as CCAL and EIA.

## THE CRAMPUS

**CONTENT:** Humor! "It's important that *The Crampus* exists on campus because you need an outlet for humor — it's so easy to get stressed here," says Crampus President Chris Johnson '11. *The Crampus* provides a humorous twist to campus events. "There's just a sense of relief that you get from having a good laugh." Reflecting on the Middlebury student body, Crampus president Chris Johnson '11 notes, "People seem surprisingly timid about writing humor ... people are afraid that they're not funny, which I find just ridiculous."

**HISTORY:** The Crampus started in the early '90s, making it the second-longest continuously student-run publication on campus.

**TIME OF PUBLICATION:** twice a year, towards the end of each semester (the next one comes out a week after Thanksgiving).

**CIRCULATION:** about 40 issues in total  
[go/snitchdec1](http://go/snitchdec1)

# ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Split Tongue Crow, Brett  
Dennen perform for fall  
concert,  
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## BRANCHING OUT IN DANCE

JEREMY CLINE'S 11.5 DANCE THESIS "CLIMBING THE WORLD TREE" FINDS INSPIRATION IN RITUAL



COURTESY

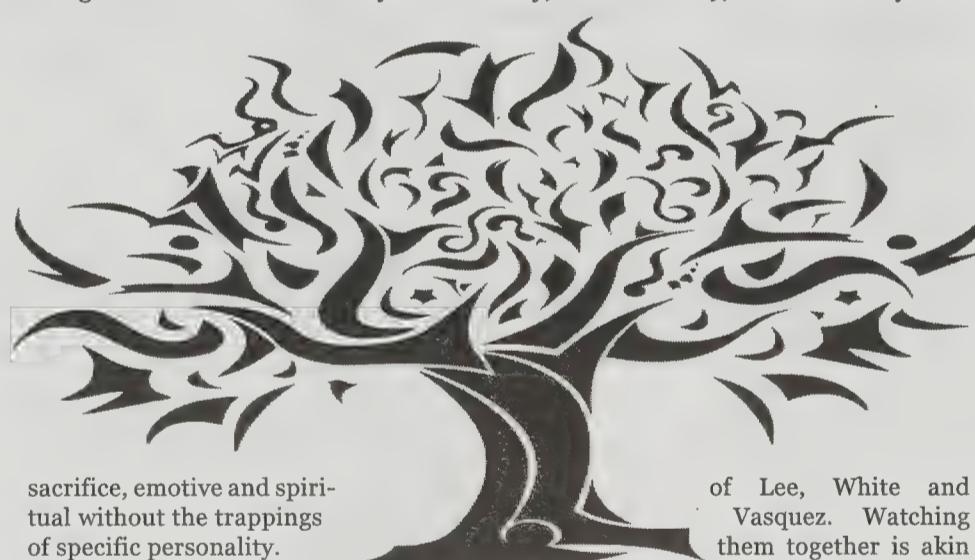
Jeremy Cline '11.5 presented his thesis "Climbing the World Tree" on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 18 and 19, in the Mahaney Center for the Arts Dance Theatre.

By Claire Sibley

In the program notes for "Climbing the World Tree," Jeremy Cline '11.5 asks "you, as participants in this ritual, to question yourselves." This is the mission — in as much as art can have a designated mission — of his work: the creation of a ritual by way of performance.

If I had to describe the piece using one word, "ritual" is the one that comes immediately to mind. Of course, there is the obvious synchrony of movement that belongs to his cast like blades belong to a field: Otto Pierce '13 and Meredith White '15 duet with a organic inevitability that seems almost a credit to fate, and Alexandra Vasquez '12, even when soloing, connects and enlivens any dancer remotely in her vicinity. But these examples are only fragments of Cline's piece — whatever criticism is to be raised of "Climbing the World Tree," it is clear that his five dancers are never at odds.

This almost hive-mind unity only begins the ritual quality of the concert; Cline's extensive knowledge of spiritual tradition is obvious but not trite in the piece. I found myself looking at Jessica Lee's '13 early solo on the trapeze as an offering made by Pierce, Vasquez, White and Davis Anderson '13 who accompanied her with arms outstretched uniformly below. Lee's balletic training allowed her flexible form to be at once angelically exalted and intriguingly objectified: for a few moments, her body occupied a space in a history of religious



sacrifice, emotive and spiritual without the trappings of specific personality.

This is a curiosity of the piece: excluding Cline, the dancers seemed without individuated character, operating collectively as a unit rather than players of separate roles. But that is not to say that the piece was slave to boy-band synchrony or dullness, which is the danger of such an integrated vision. Under a less dedicated choreographer, an attempt to bring together movement qualities so differing as Anderson's and Lee's could have yielded something frustrating and patchy. Instead I found incidents of each of the dancers' qualities in all of their bodies — and moments of dissimilarity between them seemed to provide more nuance than incongruity. Anderson's poetic muscularity and Pierce's brute ingenuity exchanged delightfully with the technical brilliance

of Lee, White and Vasquez. Watching them together is akin to going to your first

excellent a capella concert: it is clear that not every voice is identical, but all belong to the same creation of feeling.

For this reason, "Climbing the World Tree" wasn't about a character or a story, in the way a ritual is not about its participants. Rather, it was an act of communion. But Cline lets himself problematize this wholeness by portraying himself as the trickster, the foreign party. While the rest of his dancers progress through the three stages of being (in Cline's words, a "realm of light" or sky, the earth where "we reside ... with which we are most familiar" and "the underworld") and fall subject to the reigning emotions and essence of these three worlds, removing layers of costume and putting on new movement with each change, Cline's role

is arguably consistent and his dress unchanging. As someone who has seen his movement quality before, I found his interludes initially surprising: it is hard to tell if this trickster is a puppeteer of the other beings on stage, or perhaps the embodiment of malevolence or mischief, or even a jealous god testing his followers for faith. Cline, dressed in black and white stripes reminiscent of both prison and a yoga retreat, enters at one point with a stick; a kinetic and charged duet with Pierce ensues (betraying their considerable chemistry as movers) which seems alternatively a friendly tussle between cubs or boys and a weaponized struggle for power.

At the end of the piece, after a tortured and hauntingly inspired sequence entitled "Below Lay Shadows," where the dancers took turns being attacked by each other and thereby upending the optimistic conviviality at the beginning of the piece, Cline's five dancers eerily fall to the ground. He parades through them, smiling almost manically, and they rise again. While it is tempting to diagnose and condemn this piece with happy-ending syndrome, I find the inevitable nature of the resurrection disturbing. Do they rise to re-enact the cycle, climbing up and down the World Tree for eternity? If not, where do they go? The trickster has demanded we ask ourselves these unanswerable questions — and given himself a success.

DON'T  
MISS  
THIS

### Man of La Mancha

Directed by Charles Giardina '12, with musical direction by Hannah Rommer '08.5, this musical tells the story of Don Quixote as a play within a play performed by Cervantes.

12/1-3, 8 P.M., MCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

### Poor Form Poetry

Middlebury's new troupe of Spoken-words poets will give their second performance of the semester. 12/1, 9 P.M., ABERNATHY ROOM

### Fall Dance Concert

Student choreographers explore the impact of theatrical lighting on new work created under the direction of Christal Brown, visiting lecturer in dance, and lighting designer Jennifer Ponder. Tickets \$12/10/6. 12/2-3, 8 P.M., DANCE THEATRE, CFA

# The Art of Success exposes a dark Britain



ANDREW PODRYGULA

LEFT: Max Hoffman '14.5 forcefully expresses his passion to a disapproving Molly O'Keefe '11.5. *The Art of Success* depicted the decline of 18th century British society, with a few modern twists. RIGHT: The murderous Sarah Sprackling (Isabel Shill '12.5) threatens Alicia Evancho '12. The play's dark scenes featured themes of infidelity and prostitution, and even an orgy.

### By Emily Scarisbrick

Nick Dear's *The Art of Success* showed at the Seeler Studio Theatre on Nov. 17–19. At once bawdy, provocative and political, the play featured a broad range of classes in its cast and sent audience members away with a unique spin on 18th century and modern England, both riotous and dark.

The 1980s play explores the career of the 18th-century artist William Hogarth, famous for his Rake's and Harlot's Progress paintings that rendered the decline of members of British society.

"I started on the play with the guess that he couldn't have drawn brothels in such initiate detail had he not been familiar with them," Dear wrote in 1988.

Although set in the 1730s, the play had clear allusions to modern British society, as Director and Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli noted in this introduction, "Hogarth's world correlates with much of English culture in the late 20th century. The 18th century pox is HIV, the rise in commercial demand of non-figurative, installation art anticipates the Young British

Artists."

Brothels, prostitution and infidelity were showcased in all their bawdy detail during the show. The actors' portrayal of the hypocrisies and differences between the "respectable" 18th-century characters cavorting with colorfully painted and flamboyant prostitutes was particularly successful.

The major points of Hogarth's life, as well as the political events of the day, were condensed into the two-hour show. Hogarth, played convincingly by Max Hoffman '14.5, opened the show lavishly discussing the nature and purpose of art with friends, until the entrance of the charismatic brothel-mistress Mrs. Needham, Emily Rosencrantz '11.5, distracted them with an assortment of girls. The next scene introduced Hogarth's wife Jane, played by Alicia Evancho '12, the daughter of a well-to-do knight and painter, who was shocked to discover the possibility of her young husband's association with

prostitutes, especially his long-standing favorite Louisa (Molly O'Keefe '11.5).

With minimal but very effective set change, the scene shifted from the suggestively named "Pleasure-Garden" to a brutal London prison, where Hogarth found himself interacting with the infamous murderer Sarah Sprackling as a model for his work. Sarah, played by Isabel Shill '12.5, was at once a psychotic killer and surprisingly round character, whose insistence on control over her own image despite her penchant for violence and brutality was very interesting. Her escape at the end of the first half of the show catalyzed much of the action in the second half.

*The Art of Success* featured some incredibly memorable moments that used the space of the Steeler Studio to great effect. When his long-term mistress turned him out on the street, Hogarth was forced first to march around frustrated in a sheet and then embroil himself in a shouting match with Louisa from the balcony,

shortly before stripping Mrs. Needham of her sultry Madame's attire as she hung in the stocks. In many ways the scene encapsulates the tone of the whole play, as the initial physical comedy of Hoffman maneuvering Rosencrantz from her animal-print ensemble faded to the reality of a poor, dejected woman, taken advantage of in yet another way.

The most talked-about scenes came in the second half as Christo Grabowski '12 and Lindssey Meessmore '11.5 flirted and toyed with each other around a luxuriously staged double bed in their respective roles as British Prime Minister Robert Walpole and Queen Caroline. Delving more and more into the contemporary with modern, rock-influenced takes on classical tunes, and projected paparazzi-like displays of digital images, the play climaxed with a raucous orgy scene in Hogarth's mind that certainly drew the attention of the audience. The boldness of the piece was wholly intentional on the part of the playwright, who claims to "hate the way creativity is sanitized for the coffee table."

## ONE LIFE LEFT

BY SANTIAGO AZPURUA-BORRAS

Every copy of *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim* should come with a surgeon-general's warning somewhere on the back of the box: "Warning: *Skyrim* may cause complicated health issues such as a severe decrease in productivity and/or dangerous levels of escapism."

*Skyrim*, like its predecessor *Oblivion*, starts the player as a faceless, nameless prisoner who has been put in jail for one reason or another. As you lay your head on the executioner's block after supposedly committing some vague crime that is never completely explained, a dragon suddenly appears and ruins the party. As you run for your life from the fire-breathing fury, you quickly learn what is going on in *Skyrim*, the northern part of the land of Tamriel. Ulfric Stormcloak, a rebel king, wants to free *Skyrim* from the Imperial city of Cyrodiil, while the Imperials have been moving on in and setting up all sort of horrible laws such as not allowing the Nords to worship their god, Talos. You, the player, are the Dovahkiin, a made-up word for "Dragonborn." As such, you have the ability to use the dragon language *Thru'm* to defeat the various dragons that have suddenly reawakened

(and appropriately, absorb their souls — because sure, why not?)

Best of all, these details only pertain to the main quest of the game, which honestly is only scratching the surface of what *Skyrim* allows the player to do or explore.

The visuals of *Skyrim* are leaps and bounds above its predecessors. Characters' faces have greatly improved (which, in retrospect, isn't saying much since the faces in *Oblivion* were terribly bad). The greatest improvement is the wilderness; exploring the outdoors in *Skyrim* is a delight as the environments shift from dark, depressing swamps where Hagravens and witches reside, to the snowy peaks of the northern mountains where saber-toothed cats and ice wraiths.

At night, one can look up and stare at the gorgeously rendered moon (which actually has different phases) or the occasional aurora borealis. However, like all of Bethesda's games, there are plenty of graphical bugs and glitches to be found: enemies won't have textures completely rendered, and characters can (and will) clip through the environment. I have yet to encounter anything game-shattering, but these bugs do break the immersion, which can be a

shame, because immersion is *Skyrim*'s greatest strength.

There is a lot to do in the land of *Skyrim* — in fact, there's an overwhelming amount to do. Want to go to college? You have your pick of two, or both. Want to become an assassin? Join the Dark Brotherhood, the game's local guild of black-clothed killers. Depending on where you decide to go or who you decide to talk to, you could end up helping a talking dog, participating in a drinking contest or waking up the next morning and trying to figure out what happened the night before (a la *The Hangover*). You can even help find a serial killer or enter the mind of an emperor and deal with his emotional baggage; the list goes on and on.

Once I actually began completing quests, I noticed a particular trend the game would strictly adhere to. It would try to distract you from your current objective by throwing as much new content at you as possible. I distinctly remember one particular incident as I was on my way to a cave to retrieve a powerful artifact. On my way back I kept bumping into characters that all requested my help with one thing or another in out-of-the-way areas. Even as I write this, my in-game to-do list is still overwhelming. But I love every moment

of it.

The variation in what you can do or see is only matched by how one can build their character. Unlike most RPGs, one does not gain experience by completing quests or vanquishing foes. In *Skyrim*, you can level up individual skills by using them in the game. Once you level up individual skills enough times, your character's base level increases (which gives you a permanent increase in health, magic or stamina and a perk point to spend). Skills include one of six different types of magic, black smithing, archery, lock picking, the use of one or two-handed weapons and more. Every skill then has its own tree of perks; you can only pick one perk per level up. In a very nice visual touch, each tree is a constellation in the sky and really helps make every character feel truly unique.

With all the variation in the game, every player's game is going to be completely unique, and therefore ripe to share stories with one another. Even though gameplay is a strictly single-player experience, *Skyrim* creates an illusion of players all sharing a unique world with a shared experience with one another.

Even though I am giving *Skyrim* my highest recommendation and it is my choice for RPG of the year, I suggest waiting until Christmas break to pick it up. Once you enter the rabbit hole, it is very hard to climb out.

THE ELDER  
SCROLLS V:  
**SKYRIM**  
XBox 360, PS3,  
PC  
**Mature**  
**10/10**

# Brett Dennen, Split Tongue Crow command fall concert

By Santiago Azpurua-Borras

On Nov. 17, the McCullough Social Space was filled with the warm and goofy personality and sounds of Brett Dennen.

The show opened with the country-inspired songs of Split-Tongue Crow, a five-person band from our neighbors down south: Rutland, Vt. Their slow but passionate vocals made up for their lack of stage presence and brought me back to the red dust mountains of southwestern Arizona. The Crows' laid-back attitude of a simpler life was reflected in the audience as everyone sat down for their set, with some slowly swaying back and forth with their friends.

After the Crows flew off, Dennen took to the stage. Dennen, a singer-songwriter from northern California, made his musical debut with a self-titled album in 2004. Since then, his music has appeared in a variety of mediums, specifically television. It has been featured in popular shows such as *Scrubs*, *House* and *Grey's Anatomy*. Dennen himself has been on late night shows such as *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, *Ellen DeGeneres Show* and *Late Show with David Letterman*.

When Dennen isn't appearing on the small screen, he can be found participating in "The Mosaic Project," a non-profit organization based in San Francisco dedicated to uniting children of diverse backgrounds.

As soon as Dennen took the stage, he went straight to work, commanding

the microphone and immediately making his presence on stage. Right then, everybody got up onto their feet almost immediately, as if in a place of worship. Although I was not familiar with his music before the show, and therefore ignorant to his set list or what album the songs hailed from, I knew I was in for a treat. An interesting thing I found about Dennen is how his almost-deconstructed body language gave him such a powerful stage presence. However, this power only appeared during his actual playing, as he was prone to inter-song banter.

While his stage chatter usually resulted in more laughter from himself than the crowd, none of this mattered as soon as his fingers reached the guitar and his mouth touched the microphone yet again.

Dennen, with his smartly written lyrics, took the audience on a journey. Despite what one might think about what he was singing, Dennen believed everything he was saying — an honesty I found strangely refreshing. He had nothing to prove to anyone but himself.

The show died down and everyone went off in a huff. The Social Space was never too crowded, but it was a decently sized crowd. Dennen wasn't the communal dance party concert I've come to expect from live shows, but the slower tempo of the room was a nice change of pace to our lifestyles. Even if I was incapable of leaving while humming one of his many tunes, as his music did not really stick to me, I can say that I at least left with a lighter heart.

## ISO SHOW OFFERS GLIMPSE OF INTERNATIONAL TALENT



TOP: Students of all backgrounds performed traditional dances in the ISO Show.  
BOTTOM: Middlebury Capoeira performs the acrobatic Brazilian martial art/dance.

## THE REEL CRITIC

BY SANTIAGO AZPURUA-BORRAS

Most people reading this are old enough to remember the Muppets, that lovable group of puppets. They've fallen off the radar in recent years, but *The Muppets* is a hilarious reincarnation of the puppets' charm, allowing them to leave their mark on the hearts of the newest generation.

*The Muppets* was written and produced by Jason Segel, of *How I Met Your Mother* and *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* fame. Segel plays Gary, a small-town everyman who travels to LA with Mary (Amy Adams). They bring along Walter, Gary's brother (who, for reasons better left unexplained, is a Muppet). Walter loves the Muppets and becomes ecstatic when he finds the opportunity to tour their old studio.

By chance, he overhears the plot of Tex Richman, a self-proclaimed oil baron, who wants the land that the Muppets studio resides on because there's oil there to be drilled. The only way to stop him is if the Muppets reunite and raise \$10 million via one last telethon to reclaim their old studio.

If there's one thing apparent throughout the entire movie, it's Segel's love for the Muppets themselves. The movie is one giant love letter to this beloved cast of characters and Segel wants to share the happiness he once experienced as a child with the newest generations. Sure, this isn't a Bram Stoker-inspired musical such as the one in *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, but the film kept me smiling from beginning to end.

The musical scores, while not necessarily catchy, are sincere and fulfilling even if some feel completely out of place, such as when Mary and Ms. Piggy sing respective solos about how great it is being alone, with only a small hint of denial.

The Muppets themselves have their original personalities completely intact and steal the show whenever they're on screen, but with some modern modifications. Ms. Piggy wears Chanel jewelry

### THE MUPPETS



a button specifically labeled, "Destroy plumbing business." If Gonzo was as rich as the movie implied, surely he could've donated some of his own money for this cause — perhaps not the full \$10 million, but at least a portion of it. Even more confusing was the ending. It's a headscratcher.

Regardless of these flaws, *The Muppets* is a lighthearted film that is adorable and guaranteed to put a smile on your face regardless of whether you're a lifetime fan of the Muppets or if you are completely new to the concept.

Die-hard fans will appreciate all the references to past Muppet-related happenings, while newcomers will enjoy the bright and exuberant nature of the film. But no matter which of the two crowds you belong to, some things are absolutely certain: it's time to play the music, it's time to light the lights, it's time to meet the Muppets.

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SATURDAY 8-10 P.M.

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### BEÑ WITH DJ BEÑ

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Check us on twitter: @BenWessel

MONDAY 6-8 P.M.

### LOOKING FOR REPORTERS!

Interested in adding to the campus conversation? Want to sound like Ira Glass? The Middlebury MUSE wants your voice on the air! We are looking for reporters who will dig deep and find the interesting story. Email mpolebau@middlebury.edu if interested.

and is the plus-size editor of *Vogue*, Kermit wears peacoats at night and Animal has been undergoing anger management therapy (with Jack Black as his sponsor, no less.)

Speaking of Black, the film is full of legitimately surprising cameos. Zach Galifianakis plays a hobo and Selena Gomez makes us all feel old when she arrives and says to the Muppets, "I have no idea who you guys are, but my agent told me to show up." Even Neil Patrick Harris shows up, just because he can, and doesn't say a single word throughout the entire film.

Some scenes feel like Segel wrote them just because he could. Ever wanted to hear a barbershop quartet cover of Nirvana's "Smells like Teenage Spirit?" Or perhaps five chickens covering "F\*ck You" by Cee-Lo Green using only clucking noises? Well, the movie has both of these things (and they're amazing).

My biggest complaint about the film is that there are some gaping plot holes. I understand it's a movie about the Muppets, but these holes are far too big to ignore. For example, as Kermit and Walter try to recruit Gonzo the Great, they find that he is the CEO of a multinational

plumbing company capable of making international trade with just a few phone calls. After he agrees to come back to the Muppets, Gonzo single-handedly destroys his empire (probably killing hundreds of workers off-screen) with

a button specifically labeled, "Destroy plumbing business." If Gonzo was as rich as the movie implied, surely he could've donated some of his own money for this cause — perhaps not the full \$10 million, but at least a portion of it. Even more confusing was the ending. It's a headscratcher.

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# Women's hockey downs Mules, Cardinals, advances to 3-0-1

By Mike Oster

After gaining two wins against NESCAC foe Colby last weekend, the Middlebury women's ice hockey team traveled to Plattsburgh, New York to play in the Panther/Cardinal Classic. This annual four-team tournament included Middlebury, Amherst, SUNY Plattsburgh, and Elmira.

To begin their season, the Panthers travelled to Maine where they played a two game series against the Colby Mules. After the Mules came out strong in the first period, scoring the first goal of the game, Middlebury took this as motivation, tying the score just a minute later. The game continued to be close throughout resulting in a 2-2 tie at the end of regulation time. After three regulation periods, the Panthers were able to come out victorious in overtime, a testament to their athleticism as a team.

The team came back for more the following day, beating out the Mules 6-0 to complete their shutout. First-year player Katie Sullivan '15 led the Panthers

with a hat trick. These games advanced the team's record to 2-0 in NESCAC play.

In their first game, Middlebury faced the Elmira Soaring Eagles. Both teams fought hard throughout the first two periods as the puck traveled back and forth across the rink. After the first period Middlebury held a shooting advantage of 8-7, while Elmira took over after the second with an advantage of 14-12. In the third period, Elmira pressured the Middlebury defense with 15 shots on goal compared to Middlebury's three.

Both teams showcased resilient goalkeepers throughout. Elmira's Lauren Sullivan pocketed 15 saves while Middlebury's Annabelle Jones '15 made 29. After the third period, however, neither team could score and the game pushed into overtime.

With neither team managing to get as much as a shot on goal during overtime, the game was pushed into penalty shots. Elmira scored two to Middlebury's one and the Soaring Eagles moved on to the final against Amherst while the Panthers settled for the consolation game against

Plattsburgh.

Things did not seem hopeful for the Middlebury women as Plattsburgh scored the first goal just over eight minutes into the first period. The Middlebury women, however, did not give in. Madeline Joyce '14 scored her third goal of the year off an assist from Jennifer Krakower '14 to even the score 1-1. Later in the first period, Maggie Woodward '13 followed suit, scoring her first goal of the season on a power play.

The Panthers kept their momentum into the second period. Woodward scored her second goal of the game at the 3:56 mark off another assist from Jennifer Krakower. Middlebury's Grace Waters '12 scored the final goal of the game at 11:53 in the third period to allow Middlebury to win 4-1.

The Panthers, now 3-0-1, finished third in the tournament while Elmira went on to win the championship game against Amherst. The third ranked Panthers continue their season with a double header at home against Trinity this weekend.

## Swimming and diving see mixed results

By Dillon Hupp

The Middlebury swimming and diving teams took home mixed results in the first meet of the season on Saturday, Nov. 19. Swimming at home in the Natatorium, the women's teams picked up victories over NESCAC rivals Tufts and Connecticut College, while the men's teams fell to those same schools.

For the women's side, the victories marked a major step forward following last year's controversy-riddled season. This is a testament to the resolve of the athletes that make up the squad and to first-year coach Bob Rueppel, who took over both the men's and women's programs at the beginning of this fall.

"I believe our performance against Connecticut College and Tufts is a very strong indicator of how we will conduct ourselves for the rest of the season," said Andie Tibbets '14. "Our commitment to the season and to training has already become apparent in our racing."

Proof of this came for team as Tibbets won two events for the Panthers, both the

100 yard and 200 yard backstroke. Tibbets was also a part of the Middlebury 200 yard medley relay team, which also placed first. Another big winner for the women was Jamie Hillas '15 who won both the 100- and 200- yard breaststroke. Hillas came within one second of breaking the school record in the 100 meter breaststroke in her first career meet for the Panthers.

"I thought that everyone on the team swam really well, much faster than I was expecting," said Hillas. "I was really happy with how I swam and it was definitely faster than I expected for myself."

Going into the last individual event, the 200 individual medley, the score was tight between Tufts and Middlebury. The Panthers came out of the event with a first, third and fourth place finish led by Alex Edel '14 and followed by first-years Courtney Haron '15 and Maddie Berkman '15 respectively.

These results created a comfortable lead over the Jumbos going into the last relay of the meet. Over the course of the meet, the Middlebury women outscored Tufts by a total of 152-148 and Connecticut

College by a final of 172-121.

"I'm really excited because I think the girls team will do really well; much better than other teams expect from us," said Hillas.

The men's results were more disappointing for the Panthers, who fell 181-107 to the Camels and 166-128 to the Jumbos. Several Middlebury swimmers earned second-place finishes, including Ethan Litman '13 in the 200 meter freestyle and Omar Carmical '12 in the one-meter dive, but only one Panther was able to secure a first-place finish. Teddy Kuo '15 secured the victory in the 200 meter butterfly event in his first meet as a Middlebury College swimmer.

"We swam well for the first meet of the season against two of the strongest teams in NESCAC," said Tyler Sandoval '13.

Both squads will travel to Amherst this weekend, the women seeking to continue their successful start and the men looking to pick up their first team win of the season. The teams will then finish off this section of the season at home against Springfield before leaving for winter break.

## EDITORS' PICKS

Will women's basketball take home the title from the Williams Tournament this weekend?

Who will score first for men's hockey in their NESCAC opener at Connecticut College?

How many times will women's hockey beat Trinity this weekend?

Will the Houston Texans sign Brett Favre following the loss of QBs Matt Schaub and Leinart?

Will Georgia be able to upset top-ranked LSU in the SEC championship game?



KATIE SIEGNER

YES

Now that Scarlett Kirk '14 is back, anything is possible.



DAMON HATHEWAY

NO

This is one of my favorite teams but I don't see it yet. Prove me wrong!



DILLON HUPP

YES

If for no other reason than we all have the same answers last week. Come on, guys.



ALEX EDEL

YES

They are doing really well this season and will continue to succeed as the season progresses.

TWICE

Never underestimate a team with five NESCAC championships.

NO

Really guys, this is the last time you chose the questions.

TWICE

I think this may be the year these girls go the distance.

NO

Well maybe ... Nah. Right? Thinking about it ...

TWICE

I picked against them last week. Clearly that's why Damon has overtaken me in the standings.

NO

They're definitely gonna go after a third Matt. My pick? Former Arkansas QB Matt Jones.

TWICE

They are 2-0 in NESCAC, why not continue the trend?

NO

If Damon doesn't know... I really have no clue.

NO

I bet on LSU last time and won, so here's to hoping for consistency.

NO

Much like my editors' picks record, LSU will still be #1 next week.

NO

Les Miles might be crazy and classless, but he can sure coach some football.

NO

LSU has really proved itself this season and will continue to do so.

## CAREER RECORD

70-85 (.452)

24-21 (.533)

83-74 (.529)

44-50 (.468)

## THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM Katie's Comments

**FIELD HOCKEY**  
1 No. 2 in the nation, but no. 1 in the Great Eight!

**WOMEN'S SOCCER**  
2 They battled the No. 2 team in the nation.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**  
3+3 Wouldn't expect anything less than a 4-0 start.

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY**  
4+3 No question these girls are as fierce as ever.

**MEN'S HOCKEY**  
5 2-0 in the 'CAC and a player of the week: solid.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**  
6+2 They have unbeatable senior leadership this year.

**SWIMMING & DIVING**  
7 A mixed bag, as Jeff Patterson would say.

**SQUASH**  
8 Some tough competition, but they came to play.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**31** Number of points scored by MVP Peter Lynch '13 in the men's basketball Roadrunner Tip-Off Tournament.

**7** Number of goals scored by the men's hockey team in a 7-1 rout of rivals Bowdoin on Nov. 20.

**66** Number of games scheduled for the upcoming NBA season starting on Christmas day.

**3** Number of field hockey players who received All-American awards.

**68** Cumulative margin of victory by the men's basketball team in their four wins.

# Men's hockey starts season off strong

By Alex Edel

The men's hockey team has started off the season with an achievement, with two NESCAC wins and a good showing at the PrimeLink Great Northern Shootout, resulting in a 2-1 record overall.

The team opened the 2011-2012 season against Colby, the team that brought the Panthers last season to their end in the quarterfinals of the NESCAC tournament last year.

Early in the game, George Ordway '15 scored his first goal as a Panther, receiving an assist from Charlie Strauss '12. The Panthers held an 11-6 shot advantage over the Mules in the first period. The team furthered their lead in the second period with a goal from Chris Steele '13.

Down 2-0 in the third period, Colby scored 2:58 into the period. Middlebury came right back at the Mules with a two-on-one goal from Martin Drotet '12. With just a minute remaining, Colby came back and scored again. However, this was not enough for the Mules as they ultimately fell 3-2 to the Panthers.

The Panthers took the win as motivation heading into their Nov. 20 game against NESCAC rivals, and then-10th-ranked Bowdoin. Strauss led the Panthers to victory, with two goals and three assists against the Polar Bears. Griffin scored once and Strauss scored twice in the first period, to advance the lead to 3-0.

The Panthers continued to score early and often as Ben Wiggins '14 and Ordway scored in a 2:13 window. By the end of the second period the score was 6-0, as Charles Nerbak

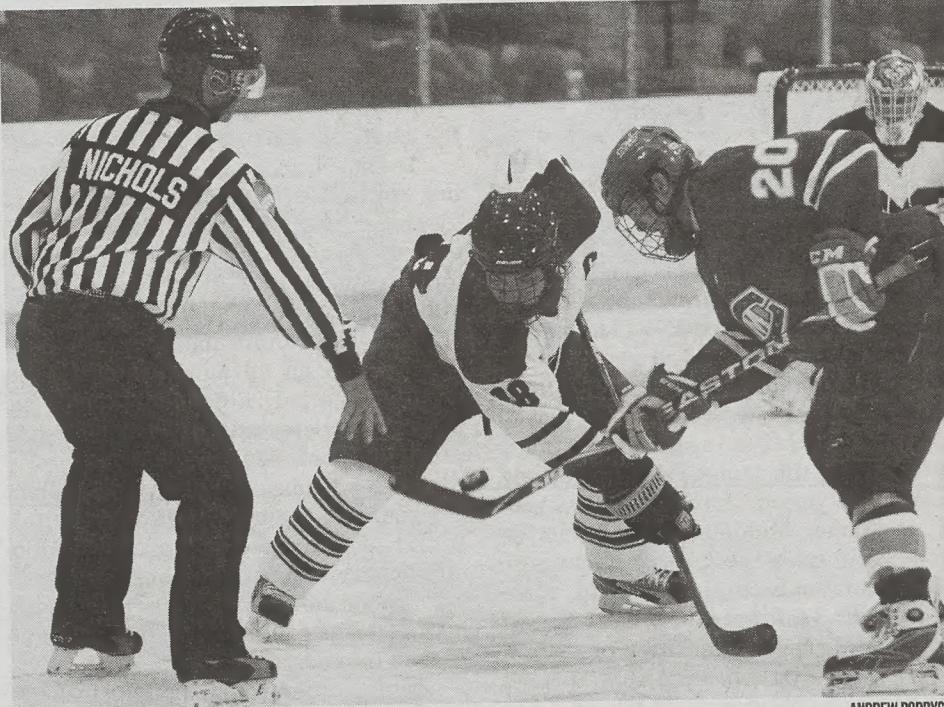
'12 scored with 3:25 left.

Early in the third the Polar Bears scored on a breakaway for their only goal of the game. The Panthers ended on a positive note though, as Nerbak scored his second goal of the game, which finished 7-1.

This past weekend, the team hosted the PrimeLink Great Northern Shootout. On Friday, the Panthers fell to Elmira 3-2, marking their first loss of the season. The Panthers fell behind 3-0 early in the first period, but rebounded with goals from Brett Brazier '13 — his first of the season — and Strauss to make it a 3-2 game going into the third period. The comeback faltered there, however, as the Panthers failed to find the back of the net despite 13 shots on goal in the third period. Middlebury outshot Elmira 32-22 in total. Strauss, who also assisted the Brazier goal, leads the Panthers with nine points (three goals, six assists) and was named both the NESCAC Player of the Week and also to the All-Tournament team.

Middlebury then hosted Plattsburgh in the consolation game, while Elmira fell 5-2 in the championship game to Norwich. Three periods and overtime were not enough to determine a winner as neither team was able to find the back of the net. Once again the Panthers outshot their opponent with a 26-19 advantage. Nick BonDurant '14 earned his first career shutout as a Panther with 19 saves. The scoreless draw was the first at Kenyon Arena since Feb. 7, 2008.

"I think we've done well thus far, but we have a long journey ahead of us," said tri-



Charlie Strauss '12 fights for the puck against a Colby player in the home opener.

captain Tom Cantwell '12. "Our execution needs to be better and it starts in practice. Ultimately we would like to get to a place where we're competing so hard during the week, that the weekends come easy. After a disappointing 11-8-6 season, ending in a 2-1 loss to Colby in the quarterfinals, the team is looking ahead rather than back in preparing

for the rest of the season. If we can develop a consistent excitement, and deliberate approach to our practices, I believe we'll be very successful this year."

The Panthers travel to Connecticut College (1-2) on Dec. 2 and Tufts (3-2) on Dec. 3.

## Men's basketball sets up for winning season



Joey Kizel '14 dribble past a player from Saint Joseph's during their 61-48 win.

**CONTINUED FROM 24**

digit rebounds, grabbing 11 and 10 respectively.

The injury to Sharry allowed both Jensen and Roberts as well as a number of first-year players to play extended minutes in the first four games.

"You always look for silver linings," Brown said regarding Sharry's injury. "It has given some of our younger players more opportunities to get on the floor and get acclimated. A couple [first-years] and sophomores are getting some more opportunities to grow early in our season."

The Panthers' strong play continued in their home-opener, as Middlebury handed St. Joseph's College of Maine its first loss 61-48. The defense shined, holding the Monks to just 30.2 percent shooting. Thompson and Lynch led the team offensively, meanwhile, with fourteen points apiece. Lynch was incredibly efficient yet again, shooting five of seven from the floor and connecting on all four of his free throws. The junior forward from West-

ford, Mass. also led the team with seven rebounds and three blocks.

Middlebury won its fourth game in just eight days in an 81-43 rout at Johnson State on Nov. 27. The Panthers held their opponents to 17 second-half points, allowing just five made field goals while limiting Johnson State to 17 percent shooting.

The visitors countered by shooting better than 50 percent from the floor, led by 13 points from Thompson while Lynch — who also had 11 rebounds in his first double-double of the season — Jensen and first-year Dean Brierley '15 all reached double figures in points.

Despite the 4-0 start, coach Brown wants to see his team minimize the number of turnovers.

"That's a concern of mine," he said. "[We were] very loose with the basketball and [did not value our] possessions. On the flipside I've been very pleased with our team defense and our ability to dominate the boards and the willingness of our group to share the ball on offense. It's a very unselfish team — one that's willing to throw the extra pass."

**JEFF BROWN  
HEAD COACH**

**"It's a very unselfish team — one that's willing to throw the extra pass."**

## Squash opens with Ivy League competition

By Katie Siegner

In keeping with their desire to become a top-tier, nationally competitive program, the Panther squash teams opened their winter season with matches against several Ivy League schools. Over the weekend of Nov. 19-20, the women's team took on Stanford, Cornell and Princeton while the men matched up against the latter two teams. Both teams fell to their opponents by 9-0 scores, but several close matches and well-fought battles added up to a satisfying start to the season for the program.

"We used to go to a round robin for our first week of matches where we were one of the strongest teams and we would usually win the matches easily," said women's team co-captain Kathryn Bostwick '12. "Replacing that weekend with these tougher opponents has given us the chance to compete at the next level and see where we need to improve. It is exciting to see that some of the best teams in the country want to play Middlebury."

Challenging the teams with tough matches right from the outset shows the commitment that head coach John Illig has demonstrated in raising the Middlebury squash program to the next level. While the teams lost, the individual players have proven that they are capable of meeting the high level of play that their coach demands. Several players competed against top-20 caliber players in their matches, including men's number one player Valentin Quan Miranda '12, who put up a good fight against the two best players in the country.

On the women's side, three of the top nine on the ladder took games off of their opponents, revealing that the matches were closer than the 9-0 score made them out to be. Amanda Chen '14, Abby Jenkins '14 and first-year Annie Wymard '15 all won games in their matches, and numerous other players were close to taking a game or two as well.

With these efforts, both teams walked away from their opening weekend excited about the prospects for their season. "After that first weekend, it became clear that the best teams in the nation can no longer take their matches against us lightly," said men's co-captain Addi DiSesa '12. "What a lot of people do not understand about squash is the difficulty of winning a major upset — five different individuals from a team's top nine must overcome strong opponents. With that said, I think it is fair to take 9-0 losses to both Cornell and Princeton in stride."

A relatively new sport in the varsity arsenal at the College, Middlebury squash has entered the arena of national competition as a team to look out for. Every year the men's and women's teams have been on the up-and-up, matching the rising level of play in the league overall. The teams played two and three top-10 programs, respectively, in the beginning of their 2011-2012 season, and they came to compete. The rest of the season holds much promise for advancement if they keep up this strong level of play.

## PANTHER SCOREBOARD

**MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Plattsburgh**

**0-0 T**

**WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. William Smith**

**2-1 L**

**MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Johnson St.**

**83-41 W**

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Plattsburgh**

**4-1 W**

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Whealock**

**62-23 W**

*This game marked the first time two teams played to a 0-0 tie at Kenyon Arena since 2008. We smell a rivalry.*

*The Panthers' lone score doubled the goals against tally for the second-ranked team in the nation, who had only allowed 1 goal previously.*

*Junior forward Peter Lynch '13 has been hot for the Panthers thus far, recording a double-double vs. JSC.*

*Middlebury came out on top in the Panther/Cardinal Classic, defeating perennial rival Plattsburgh handily.*

*Tri-captain Brittany Perfetti '12 was named to the all-tournament team for her play at Swarthmore.*

# Women's basketball starts 2-1

By Dillon Hupp

The Middlebury women's basketball team had to settle for the consolation prize at the Swarthmore Tip-Off Tournament in Pennsylvania, dropping their season opener to the host school before drubbing Wheelock in the following game. Tri-captain Brittany Perfetti '12 was named to the all-tournament team for her performance over the weekend.

In their season opener against Swarthmore, the Panthers came out hot but ultimately fizzled, jumping out to an early lead before giving up an 18-0 run to the host school during the latter part of the first half, eventually trailing by a score of 27-21 at the break.

Forced to play catch-up for the remainder of the game, the Panthers shot much better in the second half than the first (45 percent to 32 percent) but misfired on all of their second-half three-point shots and never cut the Garnett lead to less than six points. Middlebury fell by a final score of 64-50. Perfetti led the Panthers with 14 points, while tri-captain Stephany Surrette '12 had 12 rebounds.

There would be no first-half woes for the Panthers in their second game of the season against Wheelock, as Middlebury's defense would be stifling, allowing just seven points over the course of the entire half to the Wildcats. Using a four-guard alignment, the Panthers closed gaps while still holding an advantage in rebounding, and Wheelock shot an abysmal 13 percent for the first 20 minutes. Leading 36-7 at halftime, Middlebury

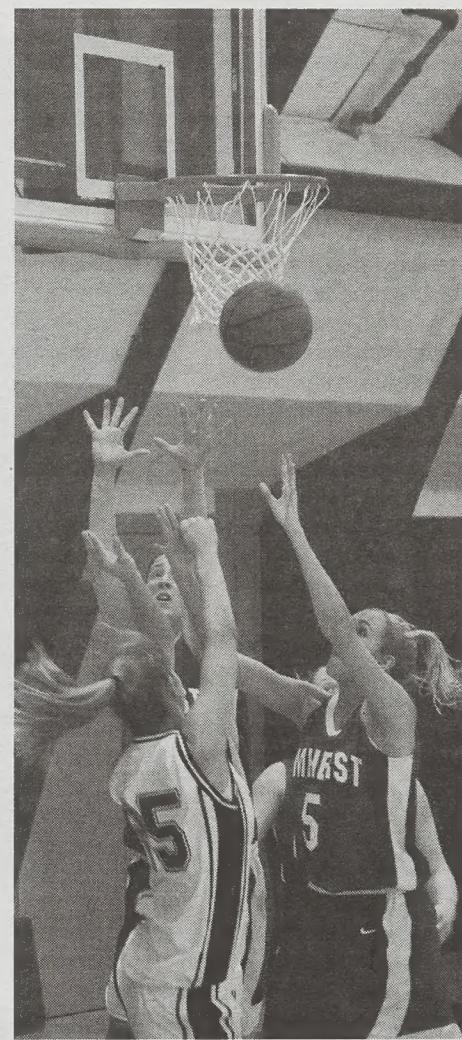
never looked back on their way to a 62-23 victory. Surrette led the team with 12 points against the Wildcats, while Rachel Crews '15 added 11 more. The Panthers shot 53 percent for the contest.

"We made a quick turnaround into Sunday's game against Wheelock and put a lot of what we learned [from the Swarthmore game] into that game and it paid off," said Surrette. "We've been practicing really hard over the last week and have ironed out a lot of the kinks in our game. I definitely believe that we have become a much older and more experienced team in just the last week."

The Panthers improvement was evident in their 48-35 win over Castleton St. on Tuesday Nov. 29. The Panthers were bolstered by a dominant defensive performance, holding the Spartans (3-1) — a team that was averaging better than 70 points per game — to just 12 first half points.

Offensively Moreau and Perfetti led the team with 13 and 12 points respectively while Katie Ritter '15 and Katie Pett '13.5 had strong performances off the bench for the Panthers. Middlebury holds a 17-6 advantage all-time in their rivalry with the Spartans and have won the past 15 matchups between the Vermont rivals.

Middlebury travels to Williams this weekend to participate in the Williams Tournament. Their opening-round game is this Friday, Dec. 2, against Daemen. This time around, the Panthers will be looking for a tournament win instead of merely the consolation game.



ANDREW PODRYGULIA

The Panthers took a defensive hammer to Wheelock, holding them to 23 points.

## SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

When Aristotle wrote his treatise on ethics more than 2,000 years ago he probably never imagined that his idea of what constituted virtue could be so aptly illuminated by say, a Michael Jordan fade-away. G. Nye, and A. Walker Boardman Professor of Mental & Moral Science Paul Nelson, however, has found in his years of teaching political philosophy that there are striking similarities between the Greek philosopher's thoughts on virtue and the abilities of one of the greatest athletes ever.

"I realized a couple of years ago [that] I could illuminate Aristotle's idea of virtue by talking about sports," Nelson said. "At the time I hit on this idea Michael Jordan was in his prime and I would talk about virtue in terms of [his] skills."

But the analogy goes beyond a deadly jump shot or a tremendous defensive play. Dennis Rodman, Nelson found, was a great example of how moral virtue differed from virtue.

[Rodman] was a terrific specialist basketball player who lived a rather unusual private life. [I used this] to clarify Aristotle's model of moral virtue: the excellent basketball player Dennis Rodman but the not so excellent person."

While Nelson uses sports to explain some lecture subjects, other connections are more coincidental. "I once found that an important passage of Aristotle's *Politics* takes place on page 37," he said. "When I was a boy I would listen to college football games on the radio and one of the players I idolized, Doak Walker, played for SMU and wore number 37."

Growing up in a small Iowa town, the radio played a crucial role in Nelson's interest in sports.

"I chanced to tune into a Canadian radio show one night and they were playing ice hockey," he recalled. "I had no conception of what ice hockey was. I heard the broadcast and tried to imagine what was going on — goalies, red lines, blue lines — those were some of my first sports memories."

Baseball, meanwhile, compelled Nelson as a kid for its excitement — he became engrossed by the 1944 World Series played between the St. Louis Cardinals and the St. Louis Browns (the Cardinals won the series in six games) — but also for the monetary incentives provided by his hometown team.

"I was in elementary school and there was a semi-pro baseball team in my hometown. I remember running behind the grandstand and collecting foul balls. If you beat the other kids to the ball you could return them for a nickel. I'm not sure how much baseball I watched but I collected a lot of nickels."

Nelson's appreciation for the game of baseball continues to this day. He cites witnessing Warren Spahn pitch in a doubleheader at Wrigley field as one of his favorite sports memories.

"My date and I had almost frozen during the first game, but I [told my date] we had to stay into the second game until Spahn had lost the no-hitter. He went quite a few innings before giving up a hit."

My favorite reference of Nelson's, however, regarded English philosopher Thomas Hobbes' beliefs about natural authority. Debunking the idea that physical strength should be considered the defining characteristic of natural authority, Nelson used two NFL giants, Dick Butkus (former Chicago Bears linebacker) and Ben Davidson (one-time defensive end for the Oakland Raiders) to demonstrate Hobbes' argument. Woody Allen, Nelson reasoned, could easily defeat either Butkus or Davidson.

"Ben and Dick were much bigger and stronger than Woody but Woody could, by confederating with 40 or 50 others his size, overcome Ben Davidson or Butkus," he argued.

Sitting in class, I wondered if Hobbes would have enjoyed the idea. Perhaps if they had played rugby.

— Damon Hathaway '13.5 is from London, England.

## Panthers honored with awards

By Dillon Hupp

Several Middlebury Panthers were honored with postseason awards following the conclusion of the fall athletic season this last week. Three volleyball players were honored by the New England Women's Volleyball Association, while one football player was honored by the New England Football Writers Association.

Jane Handel '12 and Caitlin Barrett '13 were both named second-team All-Region selections by the NEWVA. For Handel, it was her fourth consecutive selection to an All-Region team. She finishes her career as a two-time All-American honorable mention, and second all-time at Middlebury in kills, third in aces, and seventh in digs. Barrett was also a

second-team All-NESCAC selection and is currently third on the school's all-time digs list. The third member of the volleyball team to be honored was Elissa Goeke '12, who along with Handel was chosen to play in the NEWVA's senior classic. Goeke led the team this year with 96 blocks.

This group of players comprised the core of a Middlebury team that this year helped lead the Panthers further in the postseason than any other team in school history. On the football side, Billy Chapman '13 took home honors for Middlebury, being named a Division II/III All-star by the NEFWA.

Chapman established himself as a leading playmaker for Middlebury football this season, finishing with 57 receptions for 635 yards. He also scored five

touchdowns. Some of his best games came against Colby, when he registered 10 catches for 139 yards and a touchdown, and at Bates, when he had 11 receptions for 122 yards and another score.

Chapman finishes the season tied with teammate Nick Resor '12 for the NESCAC lead with 7.12 catches per game. He is also third in the conference in receiving yards per game, averaging 79.4 yards per contest. Chapman's play was crucial to Middlebury's strong finish, which helped them to a .500 record after a slow start to the season.

The field hockey team also earned numerous awards in their second place finish, including Lauren Greer '13. After earning both single-season and career scoring records she was named NESCAC player of the year.

## Panthers finish second in the nation

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College, proving that it could perform in high-pressure situations just as well as in any other game. Tri-captain Lucy Jackson '12 opened the scoring for the Panthers on a deflection off a penalty corner, and Lauren Greer '13 doubled the lead before the first half was over off an assist from Charlotte Gardiner '13.

Despite increased Polar Bear pressure in the second half, the Panther defense held strong, and Elinore O'Brien '14 took charge of icing the game for Middlebury, scoring off a long run midway through the period.

Just a day after the huge victory against Bowdoin, the Panthers again took the field against a tenacious TCNJ team that matched them attack for attack throughout the national championship game. Both teams threatened early, but it was the TCNJ Lions who first broke through in the first half, finding

a rare seam in the solid Middlebury defense. Nevertheless, the Panthers kept their poise, and just 2:24 into the second half senior Hannah Clarke '12 netted the equalizer off an O'Brien assist.

Although Middlebury continued to threaten, and Greer generated numerous opportunities, the Lions capitalized on two more goals to take the national title, 3-1. Tri-captain Becca Shaw '12 made six saves for the Panthers, who battled the whole game before ultimately falling short. Despite the loss, the team left the tournament with much to celebrate about their season.

"This year was an absolutely perfect way to go out," said tri-captain Liz Garry '12. "Although ending on a win would have been the 'cherry on top' so to speak, the group of girls that I got to spend the past three months with truly made it the best season to date. We were wildly successful beating a team that hadn't lost

since October of 2010, playing in two final games (one for the NESCAC championship and one for the NCAA championship) and going on an insane winning streak. I don't think any of the seniors would change any of the days over the past three months."

In recognition of the team's success, individual players were honored with several post-season awards. Standout forward Lauren Greer '13 was named NESCAC player of the year, setting single-season and career scoring records in goals, assists and points.

In addition, two other Panthers were selected to NESCAC first and second teams — Charlotte Gardiner '13 (first team) and Margaret Souther '13 (second team) — and the awards kept piling up, as four members of the team received all-Region honors (Greer, Gardiner, Souther and first-year Catherine Fowler '15) and the three juniors were all-Americans.

The Panther field hockey program appears to be well-poised for another year of dominance as they enter the off season and set their sights on a 2012 NCAA championship.

# SPORTS

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## Men's basketball takes Ramapo title

By Damon Hatheway

The fifth-ranked men's basketball team opened their 2011-2012 campaign in the same fashion that vaulted the Panthers to a 28-2 record and a Final Four appearance last season. Middlebury swept the Roadrunner Tip-Off Tournament at Ramapo in its first weekend of play Nov. 19-20, defeating Gwynedd Mercy 76-70 and then hosts Ramapo 73-62 in the championship game. Neither game was as close as the final score indicated.

Playing without senior captain and preseason All-American Ryan Sharry '12, who missed the tournament due to injury, forward Peter Lynch '13 led the team averaging 15.5 points and five rebounds en route to being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Guard Jake Wolfin '13 who averaged 12 points and eight assists over the weekend was selected along with Lynch to the All-Tournament team.

Head coach Jeff Brown was impressed by his team's strong start and particularly by the play of Lynch.

"Both of our opponents were NCAA [tournament] teams last season and although they lost some key guys through graduation I was really pleased with how well we [played]," Brown said. "We always thought that Peter was capable of taking [advantage] of these scoring opportunities. Last year he was a key reserve coming off the bench. Now he's a leader inside for us and he [came] up big."

In the opening round win

over Gwynedd Mercy Lynch shot a blistering nine of 10 from the floor — good for a team high 19 points. The Panthers led the game by as many as 17 points in the first half and went into the break leading 40-27. Middlebury extended their lead to 18 points with just over two minutes remaining in the game before Gwynedd Mercy chipped the deficit down to a more respectable single digit loss.

Joey Kizel '14 added 18 points, six assists and five rebounds on four of eight shooting while draining nine of 10 free throws. Wolfin, meanwhile, scored 14 points on three of seven shooting from beyond the arc, dished out seven assists and grabbed seven rebounds.

In the final the Panthers faced hosts and then-undefeated Ramapo (3-1). The Roadrunners kept the game close throughout the first half, trailing by four points at the half. Middlebury found its rhythm on offense in the second half though, outscoring Ramapo 43-36 while shooting better than 56 percent from the floor as a team.

Four different starters scored in double digits for the Panthers. Captain Nolan Thompson '13 led all Middlebury scorers with 13 points while Kizel and Lynch both added 12 apiece and Wolfin had 10 points with nine assists. Two sophomores made significant contributions on the boards as James Jensen '14 and Jack Roberts '14 hauled in double-

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Elinore O'Brien '14 takes a shot for the Panthers in the NCAA championship vs. TCNJ.

## Field hockey falls in finals

By Katie Siegner

The 2011 season for Panther field hockey has been one for the record books. Although Middlebury fell in the Nov. 20 NCAA title match 3-1 to the College of New Jersey after defeating Bowdoin in the semifinals the day before, the season has been the most successful in recent history — the team has not advanced to the finals since 2007, when they were also runners-up. Numerous team and individual achievements have marked Middlebury's domi-

nant run-up to the NCAA finals, including a 12-game win streak leading up to the NESCAC championship, a revenge win over Bowdoin, and several all-NESCAC, all-region and even all-American honors.

### FIELD HOCKEY

Middlebury	1
TCNJ	3

As a team, the Panthers advanced to the NCAA finals for the sixth time in program history, making their 12th overall and ninth consecutive NCAA tournament appearance. Perhaps most exhilarating, they had to beat NESCAC rivals Bowdoin

to get there, and the Panthers' 3-0 win over the Polar Bears was surely a season highlight. After failing to the reigning national champions twice during the regular season and conference finals, the shutout win in the Final Four marked just the second time in 14 meetings that the Panthers came out with a victory, snapping a 26-game winning streak for Bowdoin.

Middlebury's potent offense was again on display in the Nov. 19 semifinal match vs. Bowdoin played at Nichols

SEE PANTHERS, 23

## Women's soccer ends season at NCAA sectionals

By Dillon Hupp

The playoff run for the Middlebury women's soccer team ended two Saturdays ago, Nov. 19, when the Panthers fell in the NCAA sectionals to William Smith. The loss overshadows an overall excellent season for Middlebury women's soccer, who went 8 consecutive games without a loss on their journey into the NCAA tournament.

All of the scoring in the Middlebury-William Smith game came in the first 18 minutes of the game. The Panthers struck first, when Amy Schleuter '13 blasted one into the back of the net from in front of the goal. The score, which put Middlebury ahead 1-0, was only the second goal William Smith had allowed in their 20 games on the season.

However, the Herons would return to their defensive ways following the Schleuter strike. Meanwhile, they exploded on the offensive end, scoring two goals in a three-minute period to go ahead for good in the game.

The first William and Smith



The Panthers dropped a hard-fought battle to the second-ranked team in the nation in the NCAA Sweet 16, Nov. 19.

goal came at 14:19 into the match, when Jocelyn Remmert '13 just missed making the save. It was the Herons again just three minutes later, as Remmert came out of the goal to challenge the shot and came up short, and Middlebury fell behind for good.

Second-half offensive at-

tempts by the Panthers proved fruitless, and while the Middlebury defense did not allow any further scores, the offense was unable to provide the equalizer.

The Panthers would attempt eight shots on the day, but only Schleuter's would find pay dirt.

Leading scorer Scarlett Kirk '14 would be held scoreless on three shot attempts.

The loss is a bitter pill for the Panthers to swallow, but it does not obscure the success that this team had over the course of their entire season.

"As a team we're proud of getting to the sweet 16 and of the season in general," said Maddie Boston '14. "We achieved two of our major team goals for the year, getting 10 shutouts and scoring 30 goals. Even though it was definitely disappointing to lose that game, it's something to move forward from. We have most of the team returning next year, and we are excited to see what we can do in 2012."

Key to the Panthers' success next year will be the return of playmakers like Kirk and Schleuter, in addition to contributor Julia Favorito '14 and goalkeepers Remmert and Elizabeth Foody '14.

If Middlebury can remain as dominant defensively next season as they were this year, they should find themselves in an

excellent position to make a second consecutive NCAA run. Up until the loss to William Smith, Middlebury had not allowed a goal in regulation or overtime since their 1-0 loss to Hamilton way back on Oct. 7.

It also cannot be overstated that William Smith is a fairly dominant team. If the Panthers' streak of shutouts was good, the Herons' defensive ability over the course of the season was spectacular — two goals allowed all season is a recipe for an excellent win-loss record. The skill of this Middlebury team should be apparent in the fact that they were able to score on these Goliath opponents, and even led them for a brief period of the game. William Smith has not lost a game on the season, with 19 wins to their credit and only one draw against them.

For a team that didn't even make the NCAA tournament last year, a loss in the sectionals to the second-ranked team in the country is not too bad a result at all.

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